

## Hijacker wants freedom for arrested sheikh

DUESSELDORF (R) — A hijacker forced a Dutch airliner to land in Dueseldorf on Sunday and demanded the United States free a blind Islamic cleric allegedly linked to the bombing of New York's Trade Centre. The hijacker, who seized KLM Flight KL110 en route from Tunis to Amsterdam, released all passengers and four of the seven crew members shortly after 5 p.m. (1500 GMT), airport officials said. He first insisted that the remaining crew — the pilot, a female co-pilot and a steward — should fly the Boeing 737-400 to New York and also demanded that the United Nations enforce its sanctions against Serbia, they added. But, accepting that the mid-range airliner could not reach New York, he later asked to be flown to another European country such as Sweden, airport spokesman Peter Zarth told Reuters. "He is believed to be an Egyptian, 55 years old," Mr. Zarth said. "He threatened that he had a bomb but we do not know if he actually has one." Mr. Zarth could only say the hijacker sought freedom for a jailed Egyptian now awaiting deportation in New York, but other airport officials identified him as Sheikh Omar Abdul Rahman, Sheikh Abdul Rahman, who is accused of entering the United States illegally while on a banned list, is contesting deportation.

# Jordan Times

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## Quakers may end Gaza programmes

OCCUPIED GAZA (R) — The American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) threatened Sunday to close its Quaker pre-school programmes in the occupied Gaza Strip after armed Palestinians threatened its representative. "Two masked and armed individuals, purporting to be from the unified leadership in Gaza, came to the home of AFSC's representative and acting director in Gaza, Hashim Abu Sido, demanding that he resign immediately as our representative," the U.S.-based AFSC said in a letter to Palestinian leaders. The AFSC said the incident occurred Friday. The unified leadership directs the Palestinian uprising. The Quakers, or Society of Friends, is a religion strongly opposed to violence and war. The Quakers' AFSC operates dozens of pre-schools for Palestinian children in the Strip. "AFSC is compelled to terminate immediately its involvement with the Quaker pre-school programmes in Gaza, to release all staff and to return the premises to UNRWA (United Nations Relief and Works Agency)," said the letter obtained by Reuters. It said the decision would be implemented unless Palestinian leaders took immediate steps to ensure the safety of AFSC staff.

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## Arab ministers to convene Aug. 22

AMMAN (AFP) — Arab parties in the Middle East peace talks will convene in Beirut on Aug. 22 for preliminary discussions before the next round of talks with Israel, the Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) Tunis representative said here Sunday. Hakan Balawi told AFP that the meeting, to be attended by the foreign ministers of Syria, Jordan and Lebanon, together with the head of the PLO's political department, would aim to coordinate Arab positions ahead of the 11th session of bilateral talks with Israel in the U.S.-sponsored Middle East peace process.

## Yemeni-Saudi talks resume

SANAA (AP) — Yemen and Saudi Arabia Sunday resumed negotiations on a long-running border dispute. The session, the fifth since the effort to resolve the row began last year, was held in Ta'iz, 260 kilometres south of Sanaa, according to official reports. The Saudi team was led by Matlah Al Faqih, a Foreign Ministry director, the Yemeni by Jaafar Saeed Basaleh, an official from the vice-president's office. The two sides had pledged when they began the effort last year to keep their talks private until final agreement.

## Israel plans \$600m Dead Sea project

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel's cabinet approved legislation Sunday that will allow the Dead Sea works to invest \$600 million in mining minerals and creating 2,000 jobs, Israel Radio said. The bill, which parliament must approve, would give the government-owned Dead Sea works authority to issue itself development and building licenses. It plans to invest \$295 million in setting up a magnesium factory and \$60 million in additional potash producing plant around the mineral-rich Dead Sea, the Maariv daily said. It also plans investments in salt mining and enlarging a power plant, the newspaper said.

## Iran accuses Saudis of breaking accords

TEHRAN (AFP) — Iran Sunday accused Saudi Arabia of barring its pilgrims from visiting Mecca despite having agreed to allow 3,000 Iranians to visit that country per month, Salam newspaper said. A culture ministry official, Mohammad Hussein Rezai, said the authorities in Riyadh had reneged on an agreement signed between the two countries in 1991 and refused to issue visas to some 3,000 Iranian pilgrims.

## Trial of 53 militants opens in Cairo

CAIRO (AFP) — The mass trial of 53 Islamic fundamentalists accused of trying to overthrow the Egyptian government opened amid tight security in the high military court here Sunday. The 53 are part of a group of 250 militants accused of forming an illegal organisation, Talah Al Fatah (the Vanguard of the Conquest), which is bent on toppling the secular government of President Hosni Mubarak. The trial, which was adjourned until Aug. 25 after a brief opening, took place a day after a civil court acquitted all 27 militants accused of the 1990 assassination of Parliament Speaker Rifaat Al Mahjoub (see page 10).

## Jordan denies attacks on rebels' towns

KHARTOUM (AP) — Sudan denied Sunday that it bombed southern cities held by the Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) and forced thousands of civilians to flee to neighbouring countries. The denial came in a statement issued by Brigadier Mohammed Beshir Suleiman, spokesman for Sudanese armed forces, in response to an SPLA accusation. The rebel army had charged that Sudan had launched a major air and ground offensive against the cities of Morokob and Kaya in the Equatoria governorate of southern Sudan. Brig. Suleiman charged that "this is part of a campaign against the Sudanese army." The army, he added, was human enough not to make civilians a target for their operations.

# Electoral puzzle likely to persist until Tuesday

By Ayman Al Safadi  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Uncertainty about the mechanism that will govern the elections for the 12th Parliament in November is likely to continue until Tuesday when the Cabinet is expected to issue a temporary law that would introduce the one-person-one-vote system into the electoral process. Well-informed sources have expected the government to announce a new election law within 48 hours but Minister of Information Ma'n Abu Nowar told the Jordan Times Sunday that "up to this moment, (the Cabinet) has not discussed the Election Law."

He said the Cabinet will not meet again until Tuesday when it holds its regular weekly session. He did not say whether the Election Law would be on the agenda, however.

Minister of Interior Salameh Hamad had also told a delegation from the Islamic Action Front (IAF) that the government has not yet made any decision on the law, according to IAF President Isbaq Al Farhan.

Dr. Farhan told the Jordan Times that he asked Mr. Hamad during a meeting on Saturday whether a government announcement of electoral changes was to be made this week. He said Mr. Hamad replied that "no decision has yet been taken."

"The Islamic Action Front, which was formed as the political arm of the Muslim Brotherhood movement after the legalisation of political parties last year, had earlier threatened to boycott the polls if they were held under a new law."

During Saturday's meeting, which was held at the invitation of Mr. Hamad, the IAF delegation told the minister that their party would not announce its decision on participating in the elections until the government clarified its position on the law that will govern them, Dr. Farhan said.

"We told him that our position is to contest the elections if they are held under the current law and we will reconsider our position if the law was changed," Dr. Farhan said.

## Israel insists it is not talking to PLO

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — The status of the Palestinian delegates to the Middle East peace talks has not changed and Israel will continue negotiations with them, not the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leadership, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said Sunday.

"There has been no change in their status," Israel Radio quoted Mr. Rabin as telling his ministers at a cabinet meeting.

"Official communications from the PLO in Tunis talk of organisational changes but do not say that members of the Palestinian delegation have been appointed to the PLO's steering committee (for the peace talks)," Mr. Rabin said after a week in which the delegates made it plain that they talk in the name of the PLO.

The cabinet session came as Faisal Hussein, head of the Palestinian negotiators, told reporters on a visit to Gaza City: "From now on Israel takes it as a 'fait accompli' that we represent the PLO."

Spokeswoman Hanan Ashrawi said Friday that some members of the delegation would now sit on the steering committee with PLO officials following disagreement over policy for the peace negotiations.

But cabinet secretary Elyakim Rubinstein shrugged off such statements, telling reporters: "There is no change in Israel's position regarding the PLO."

"The government is negotiating an interim agreement with a delegation from the (occupied) territories whose members are not implicated in terrorism."

"The government is not negotiating with the PLO." When the peace process began in October 1991 Israel refused to negotiate with the PLO, agreeing to talk only to Palestinians living in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

tion if the law was changed," Dr. Farhan said.

The government had earlier rejected threats to boycott the elections saying it will not be pushed around. Mr. Hamad told a press conference last week that all political parties were free to contest or boycott the elections.

Dr. Farhan, however, said that the meeting with Mr. Hamad on Saturday was "smooth and comfortable and served as a forum to exchange views on a number of issues on the local political scene."

The Islamic front fears that a new election law would be tailored to weaken its performance in the November elections and has been a fierce opponent of electoral changes that the government would introduce unilaterally.

Observers and well-informed sources say the most significant electoral change would be the introduction of the one-person-one-vote formula which would mainly work to the disadvantage of the IAF.

They say the new voting system would deny the Brotherhood the opportunity to repeat the electoral gains it made in the 1989 elections when it benefitted from the bloc-voting system through the formation of alliances with independent candidates.

In its campaign against the change, the IAF is focusing on the mechanism through which the Election Law could be changed.

It says Parliament is the only body that is constitutionally empowered to issue legislation in the absence of extraordinary circumstances in the country. Along with other political parties and figures opposed to changing the law, it says it would be illegal for the government to change the law through a provisional legislation which the Constitution stipulates can be enacted in "extraordinary situations" only.

Former Muslim Brotherhood deputies who will contest the next elections on the IAF ticket, and other former legislators, warned Saturday that they would challenge the government in court if it changed the Election Law through issuing temporary legislation.

isolation.

The Brotherhood will Tuesday host a meeting of former deputies and heads of political parties to further discuss a plan of action in the event the government decided to change the law unilaterally.

The deputies met Saturday at the office of former independent Islamist lawmaker Leith Shbeilat who claimed he had the support of "at least 30 to 40" parliamentarians in the bid to take the government to court if it replaced the Election Law.

Meanwhile, the voter registration period ended yesterday but the Minister of Interior did not reveal the final number of registered voters. The latest figure reported Saturday put the number of new voters (those who did not register for the 1989 elections or reached the legal age for voting since then) at 379,401, bringing the total number of registered eligible voters to around 1.4 million.

Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali Sunday issued a circular urging government officials to cooperate with district governors in preparing for the elections, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, quoted him as saying that ministries and government department officials and members of the judiciary can participate in the committees that will supervise the elections on Nov. 8.

The government had earlier said parliamentary candidate can officially register with the Ministry of Interior between Oct. 14-16 and can launch their electoral campaigns between Oct. 16 and Nov. 6. The minister of information Friday requested newspapers not to carry advertisements for candidates before the legal period of the campaign actually starts.

However, there were reports on Sunday evening after the registration centres had closed that as many as 100,000 of the "new" voters were not actually "new" since they had registered for the 1989 elections but did not know that they did not have to register again. Ministry of Interior officials were not immediately available for comment on these reports.

## Rabin says settlers impede security

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Jewish settlers in the occupied Golan Heights pose a risk during military operations, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said Sunday, refuting claims the occupied Syrian territory is essential to Israel's "security."

"Children, women, cows, others — they were targets in the 1973 war, so we had to vacate them," Mr. Rabin said.

Mr. Rabin has said Israel will withdraw from territory on the Golan Heights, seized from Syria in the 1967 war, in exchange for peace with Syria. He has not specified the extent of a withdrawal.

Syria has said it will not accept anything less than the whole territory.

Mr. Rabin's statement starkly contradicted persistent claims by right-wing nationalists that settlement enhances Israeli "security."

"I believe it would be easier for us to cope with terrorism with freedom of action of our military activities in the territories not worrying all the time who is there," Mr. Rabin told a group of visiting Jewish fundraisers in occupied Jerusalem.

Mr. Rabin's comments came as the U.S.-backed Middle East peace talks are due to resume in Washington on Aug. 30.

U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher said following a visit to the area two weeks ago that he expected momentum in the Israel-Syria talks when negotiations resume.

"Today, there are ten times more of them," Mr. Rabin said of the settlers. "Keeping whatever is in the (northern) territories is not crucial to our security."



His Majesty King Hussein Sunday presents a certificate to an air force graduate (Petra photo)

## King attends air force graduations

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Sunday attended the graduation of a batch of Royal Air Force pilots held at one of the Jordanian royal airforce bases.

After listening to speeches by the Royal Air Force College commander who outlined the training programmes of the graduates, the King presented the new pilots with their wings and distributed awards to those excelling in their courses.

King Hussein, accompanied by the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and senior military officers and the air force commander, watched an aerial show presented by formation of the Royal Air Force.

King Hussein also Sunday attended a graduation ceremony of Royal Air Force command staff and distributed certificates and awards to those excelling in their courses.

Attending the ceremonies were His Royal Highness Hashem Ibn Al Hussein, Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali, Chief of the Royal Court Khalid Karaki, Prince Talal Ben Mohammad, the King's military secretary, the directors of the Civil Defence and Public Security departments and high-ranking army officers.

# Ten accused of plot against the King scheduled to go on trial within a week

By Saas Atiyeh  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The case of 10 people suspected of plotting to assassinate His Majesty King Hussein goes to military court within one week, but no exact date has been set for the trial, a senior security source said Sunday.

The source, speaking to the Jordan Times on condition of anonymity, did not elaborate on the specific charges facing the 10, but said they were accused of belonging to an illegal group, the Islamic Liberation (Tahrir) Party (ILP). The party's aims, the source said, "are well-known, which is to topple the regime and replace it with an Islamic state."

Around 30 people, mainly students and staff members at Mu'ta's military university south of Amman, were arrested and detained at the General Intelligence Department (GID) in April and May for allegedly plotting to kill the King during a speech he was to give on June 26. But most of the detainees were released in the past two weeks, and the rest were

transferred to a military prison in Zarqa last week where they await their trial.

The security source said that the public trial at the State Security Court will begin as soon as the investigation into the case is completed, adding that two of the 10 will be tried in absentia if they are not captured before the hearings start. The source described the suspects as a combination of "soldiers and civilians."

The Tahrir Party was established in the West Bank in the early 1980s, and had a representative in the Jordanian Parliament in 1956. Although the organisation is known to have plotted against the regime previously, it has no history of carrying out terrorist activities to achieve its goals, principal among which is the creation of Caliphate-like Islamic states in the Arab World. However, critics of the ILP, mainly the leftist parties of the 50s, had at the time accused the party, which did not enjoy much grassroots support, of receiving funds from the West.

Meanwhile, some of the detainees' parents were permitted to see their imprisoned sons on Sunday for the first time since their detentions. The security sources said that some other parents had visited their children on Friday.

Representatives of the International Red Cross (ICRC) also visited the detainees on Sunday, but they declined to comment on their situation. The head of the ICRC delegation in Amman, Michel Ducraux, also declined to confirm or deny allegations by some of the suspects' parents that their sons "were hidden from the ICRC representatives at the GID cells."

"I cannot comment on these allegations," Mr. Ducraux told the Jordan Times. "I cannot give any details on the situation of the prisoners we visited today."

The ICRC has access to visit detainees at the GID and other prisons twice a month to inspect the treatment of the prisoners.

But according to Nawaf Shdeifat, the father of Fu'ad,

## Majali issues budget guidelines

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali Sunday issued a circular budget containing guidelines for preparing the 1994 fiscal budget to various government departments.

The budget should follow the economic restructuring programme adopted by the government for the years 1992 through 1998, the circular said, adding that this calls for measures to speed up the socio-economic growth in order to tackle unemployment and poverty.

The circular said the budget should focus on productive schemes and provide for lower expenditures.

The circular said: "The 1994 fiscal budget figures should be based on the general broadlines of the 1993 figures and include only the salaries and increments of current employees."

"The budget should not include any request for creating new jobs unless absolutely necessary."

(Continued on page 10)

# Libya denounces Western ultimatum, says Security Council is browbeaten

TUNIS (Agencies) — Libya denounced a Western deadline Sunday for the handover of airmen bomb blast suspects and diplomats said Tripoli was likely to run the risk of fresh sanctions rather than surrender the two men for trial in the United States or Britain.

The United States, France and Britain said Friday Libya would face further sanctions if it did not hand over by October 1 the alleged agents suspected in the 1988 Pan Am airliner bombing over Lockerbie, Scotland. All 259 people aboard the plane and 11 on the ground where killed when it exploded.

The Security Council decided to maintain existing aviation, arms and diplomatic sanctions imposed 16 months ago. It wants also greater Libyan cooperation with a French investigation into the bombing of a UTA flight, which blew up over Niger on September 19, 1989, killing 171 people.

Libya, which denies any involvement in the Pan Am and UTA bombings, said the council's decision was a threat.

"The Libyan Arab people can only interpret this announcement as confirming the truth which has

become clear to the world — namely the submission of the U.N. security council to the pressures of the major powers," the official news agency JANA said.

It said the foreign ministry was studying the statement by the Security Council and by the United States, France and Britain and would issue a declaration later.

But European and Arab diplomats in Tripoli say Libya is likely to run the risk of fresh sanctions rather than hand over its two compatriots.

"I don't see (Libya) deciding to surrender the two men," a senior Tripoli-based Western diplomat said. "I think that fresh sanctions will start a new escalation in the conflict."

Western countries warned that if Libya failed to comply with Security Council resolutions 731 and 748, including the transfer to U.S. or U.K. jurisdiction of the Lockerbie suspects, they would present a resolution strengthening the sanctions in key oil-related, financial and technological areas.

Possibilities include an embargo on oil equipment, like production or refining machinery, and



Muammar Qadhafi

also asset freezes.

A "related oil embargo" could cripple Libya," experts said. Libya has virtually no resources other than the 1.35 million barrels of high-quality crude it pumps daily.

The United States, accusing Tripoli of supporting "international terrorism," froze Libya's assets and imposed a trade embargo against it in January

1986. The ban, which includes oil equipment, is renewed each year.

"The renewal of sanctions just when the Libyan people expected them to be lifted, is proof that the security council continues to be subjected to pressure from the big powers," JANA said Sunday.

JANA said Libya failed to see why these three countries "continue to threaten Libya since this country has always expressed readiness to cooperate with the U.N. in the Lockerbie affair."

The release of the statement by the three states... implies threats," JANA said. "It shows they have not abandoned their threats in dealing with the crisis between them and the Great Jamahiriya (Libya)."

Recently progress has been reported in arranging the surrender of the men.

On Aug. 4, a U.N. spokesman said the United Nations and Libya were making progress in negotiations to bring the two Libyans to trial in Britain. Libyan Foreign Minister Omar Mustafa Al Muntasser conferred earlier this month with Secretary-General Boutros Ghali and delivered a new Libyan proposal.

Dr. Ghali said later it calls for the men to be delivered for trial.



# Iran-bound Chinese ship shunned by Gulf ports

DUBAI (R) — A Chinese cargo ship accused by Washington of carrying banned chemical weapons additives for Iran marked time on the edge of the Gulf Sunday, shunned by nearby Arab ports and watched closely by the U.S. Navy.

Shipping sources said the exact position of the Yinhe, which entered the region more than a week ago with a cargo of Iran-bound containers, was not immediately known although it was believed to be in Iranian territorial waters.

Officials in Peking said the ship would anchor off Oman to take on fresh supplies of fuel and water but one shipping source said the Chinese had made no formal approach to the sultanate.

"Oman has not been approached for permission to allow the ship to anchor either inside or outside its territorial waters," a shipping executive in the sultanate said by telephone.

Shipping sources in the United Arab Emirates said the Yinhe, which was denied the right last week to unload its cargo in one of Dubai's ports, would not be allowed to anchor off the UAE.

"Supply companies are being closely watched to make sure they do not provide the Yinhe with services from UAE ports," said a shipping source in the UAE's Gulf of Oman port city of Fujairah just outside the Strait of Hormuz.

The official Chinese Xinhua news agency, quoting officials at the China Ocean Shipping Corporation, said on Saturday the Yinhe would anchor 15 miles off Oman "to ensure the safety of the vessel and crew," and take on new supplies of fuel and water.

But a shipping source in the UAE said, "the vessel is carrying hazardous materials and the UAE coast guard will not allow it to anchor in international waters off the UAE coast and I think the Omanis could do the same."

Shipping sources said Omani and UAE ports have been on the alert since the Xinhua report and the Omani coastguards were co-ordinating "heavy patrols" of territorial waters.

"It is difficult to say if the Omanis will help. It is a political issue now and I cannot guess the outcome. I asked around and there is no word that the Yinhe is coming to Oman," the shipping executive in Muscat said.

The row between Washington and Peking has put added strain on Sino-U.S. relations, already beset by strong disagreements over trade policy and continued U.S. concern over Peking's arms sales and human rights record.

The United States says the Yinhe is attempting to transport banned ingredients for chemical weapons to Iran. It has been tracking the ship and has vowed to inspect its cargo.

Peking says the Iran-bound containers contain only paper goods, hardware and machine parts and has accused Washington of acting like "a self-anointed international policeman" by interfering in the ship's voyage.

It was not immediately clear why the ship did not dock directly in an Iranian port. One source said the ship "is closer to Iran than it is to the UAE."

But shipping executives in Dubai said the containers it was carrying were for trans-shipment to Iran and other cargo for several regional states.

"Dubai is the main trans-shipment hub to Iranian ports. It handles about 80 per cent of Iran's cargoes," one said. "Containers are rarely checked in Dubai and are never inspected here. Containers for Iran are usually off-loaded in Dubai and automatically put on a ship heading for Iran."

China said on Friday that the United States had rejected a Chinese suggestion that the Yinhe's cargo should be unloaded and then inspected by a third party.

## Iran to get third sub

Iran will soon receive its third Russian-made submarine, navy commander Admiral Ali Shamkhani said.

In remarks published in Kayhan newspaper on Saturday, Mr. Shamkhani also said that naval bases at Abadan and Mahshahr in the northern Gulf had become operational again after damage caused during the 1980-88 Iran-Iraq war was repaired.

"To complete our fleet, Iran's third submarine will soon set out for its mission in our country's waters," Mr. Shamkhani said. He gave no date.

Iran, the only Gulf state operating submarines, ordered three Kilo-class vessels from Moscow. The second diesel-powered submarine arrived at Bandar Abbas at the Hormuz Strait this month. The first one was delivered last November.

Mr. Shamkhani reiterated that Iran wanted security in the Gulf to be provided collectively by regional states. A third of the world oil trade passes through the shallow waterway.



AFTER THE RAID: A Somali man tries to find his way past the rubble of a house of believed supporters of General Mohammad Farrah Aidid attacked in south Mogadishu Sunday by U.S. soldiers (AFP photo)

## Rafsanjani's cabinet backed in Majlis debate

TEHRAN (R) — Iran's Majlis (parliament) began a debate on President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani's cabinet Sunday and most speakers supported his compromise reshuffle.

Deputies criticised performance of several ministries in the first five hours of debate, but there was no direct attack on any of the 23 proposed ministers, indicating that all might be approved in the vote set for Monday.

But newspapers said a few of the nominees, including Oil Minister Gholamreza Aqazadeh, might fail to get through or be approved by only a small margin.

"What I would like to see is the approval of all ministers with high votes," Mr. Rafsanjani, who started his second four-year term this month, told the assembly.

Mr. Rafsanjani, who has pledged to pursue a moderate foreign policy and continue free-market economic reforms, has retained 16 ministers at their posts, switched one to a different ministry and brought in six new faces.

Press reports earlier said the conservative majority of the Majlis wanted more than half of the cabinet changed.

Mr. Rafsanjani made clear he had prepared his list as a compromise, dropping ministers whom he approved of but was informed that the Majlis would not vote for.

"According to law, the Majlis is a party to deciding the cabinet."

Naturally we should pay attention to the views of the deputies, even if we do not agree with them," he said.

Mr. Rafsanjani said he had decided to move Akbar Torkan from the Ministry of Defence and Armed Forces logistics to the road and transport portfolio because "we felt there was a problem in cooperation of armed forces."

He did not elaborate, but said a minister from either the army or the Revolutionary Guards could make the other feel discriminated against.

Mr. Torkan had been head of the army-affiliated defence industries before becoming minister in 1989. The proposed defence minister, Mohammad Forouzan-deh, was commander of the main engineering base during the 1980-88 Iran-Iraq war.

The other important change is the replacement of Interior Minister Abdullah Noori, criticised by conservatives as a radical holdover in the cabinet, by Ali Mohammad Besharati, currently deputy foreign minister.

The strongest criticism made in the debate was against the Oil Ministry, but it targeted one of Mr. Aqazadeh's deputies, not the minister personally.

Mohsen Yehyavi said Ahmad Rahgozar, who heads the National Petrochemical Company, tried to cover up and mislead the Majlis when its oil committee objected to a contract signed with a Norwegian firm.

## PKK revolt enters 10th year

ANKARA, Turkey (AP) — Kurdish rebels begin their 10th year of guerrilla warfare with no letup to the bloodshed.

The government kept up a pounding offensive, assaulting a mountain stronghold near the Iraqi border and killing at least 57 rebels in the attacks, reports said Saturday.

Officials in the war-torn southeast region that the guerrillas would like to turn into a separate Kurdistan reported at least 10 villagers died Saturday in a clash between police and protesters marking the anniversary.

Nine of the Kurdish villagers were killed in Digor, near the border with Armenia, when security forces battled some 1,500 demonstrators, the provincial governor in the area reported.

Nine years after the first battle launched by the Kurdistan Workers' Party, or PKK, Turkey's southeastern region is gripped by a war pitting some 140,000 Turkish soldiers against a guerrilla force estimated at less than 10,000.

Since the fighting began on Aug. 15, 1984, Kurdish violence has spread beyond the southeast, where the majority of Turkey's Kurds live, to large cities and recently to resort areas.

Ahmet Cem Ersever, a recently retired army colonel who used to gather intelligence against Kurdish terrorism, has argued that the Turkish authorities underestimated the PKK at the very beginning.

"From a 200-person force they grew into a force of 10,000 in nine years," Ersever told the weekly Tempo.

Kurdish villagers are often caught between PKK violence and the Turkish army's oppression.

Five villagers were shot dead in Eskin village in Diyarbakir province by rebels who wanted to punish villagers they suspected of collaborating with the government against them.

Saying military might alone won't solve the guerrilla problem, Premier Tansu Ciller recently unveiled a development package for the impoverished, mountainous southeast, home to half the nation's 12 million Kurds. Turkey's overall population is 50 million.

But her suggestions to allow the use of Kurdish in broadcasting and education are being opposed by the army.

Turkey does not recognise Kurdish as an official language and restricts its use. In one of the concessions to the minority during the war, the government three years ago allowed Kurdish to be spoken in public.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Saudi council's secretary general named

DUBAI (R) — Saudi Arabia's King Fahd appointed Saturday a secretary general of a proposed national assembly promised as part of political reforms announced more than a year ago. In a decree issued by the official Saudi Press Agency, King Fahd appointed Hamoud Ben Abdul Aziz Ben Abdul Mohsen Al Badr secretary-general of the proposed Shura (consultative) council whose members have yet to be appointed. The council would for the first time give Saudis outside the royal family a formal say in the running of the conservative state. Sheikh Badr is a professor at King Saud University in Riyadh. King Fahd had already appointed Mohammad Ben Ibrahim Ben Juber as council speaker and Abdullah Ben Amr Nasif as deputy speaker. The king announced plans for the shura council in March last year as part of political reforms which would include a number of provincial advisory councils. The reforms also gave the kingdom its first written basic law alongside the Islamic Sharia code.

### \$350 million to fly in immigrants to Israel

TEL AVIV (AFP) — Israel has spent \$352 million to fly 440,000 immigrants from the former Soviet Union over the last three years, the Jewish agency said Sunday. Each immigrant cost an average of \$739 for an air ticket and the shipping of personal effects, said the agency which oversees immigration. Another 80,000 immigrants are expected to arrive in Israel this year, most of them from the ex-Soviet empire.

### Israel to rule on Demjanjuk retrial Wednesday

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel's supreme court will rule Wednesday whether John Demjanjuk, acquitted of charges he was a Nazi guard, should face a second trial for other alleged war crimes, the justice ministry said. "The ruling on the eight petitions submitted to the supreme court... against Ivan John Demjanjuk will be given Wednesday, 18 Aug. 1993 at 9.00 a.m. (0600 GMT)," the ministry said in an announcement Sunday.

### Grenade explosion kills one in Iran

TEHRAN (AFP) — A hand grenade exploded in the band of 10-year-old boy in western Iran, killing him and injuring eight others, the daily Jomhuri Eslami said Sunday. The boy, Kamran Falahzadeh, suffered a "grizzly death" as the grenade blew up in his hand in a poverty-stricken neighborhood in the city of Hamadan last Tuesday, it said. Eight people were also injured in the accident. The paper said police were investigating to determine the origin of the grenade.

### Wild cat terrorises upper Egyptian town

ASSIUT, Egypt (R) — An Upper Egyptian town often ravaged by Muslim militant violence fell prey to a new danger — a roaming wild cat. Officials in Dayrut, 270 kilometres south of Cairo, said the wild cat attacked 18 children over the past few nights, nearly ripping one child's ear off before it was hunted down and shot dead on Saturday, local security sources said on Sunday. The cat had a reddish coat and was slightly larger than a dog but its species was not immediately known. Residents said the town resounded with gunfire over the past few days as townsfolk nervous of the "lioness" shot at anything that moved. Officials said it was scared out of its normal habitat in the rocky hills overlooking the Nile Valley where workers started to dynamite a path to lay a new highway from Cairo to the southern resort of Aswan. All but one of the cat's victims were now out of hospital, the sources said. Dayrut has been under curfew and virtual police siege for much of the past 18 months as militants in the area fight security forces and pick off members of the Christian minority to their struggle to set up a purist Islamic state in Egypt.

### Woman arrested on charges of faking rape

NICOSIA (AP) — A woman from Sri Lanka was arrested Saturday on charges that she faked a gang rape, possibly in hopes of getting 50,000 pounds (\$100,000) in government compensation, court officials said. A Nicosia court ordered Jayawardana Gomage Chandani Nilmini, 25, held for at least four days on charges of public mischief. Ms. Nilmini claimed on Aug. 5 that she was bound and raped by three men in a Nicosia home, where she worked as a maid, and that a woman recorded the scene with a video camera. Ms. Nilmini's story and resulting police manhunt made front page news in Cyprus. Prosecutor Philippos Vrontos said police began questioning her allegations after she wrote to President Glafos Clerides to ask for 50,000 pounds (\$100,000) in compensation for her ordeal. Mr. Vrontos claimed in court that Ms. Nilmini admitted lying after eight days of police investigation, including the publication of composite photographs of the supposed rapists, failed to turn up any clues. Ms. Nilmini, who appeared without a lawyer, said little during her brief court appearance. Judge Leonidas Papparinis said the court would provide her with legal counsel for her trial.

### Group says it foiled assassination bid

BEIRUT (R) — A Palestinian group said on Sunday bodyguards foiled an attempt by agents paid by Israel to assassinate one of its leaders in Beirut. The group, the Islamic Jihad Movement in Palestine, said it would avenge the attack. Six gunmen tried to assassinate Mohammad Abu Samra, a member of its central leadership, a few days ago and clashed with his bodyguards, it said in a statement. One of the attackers was wounded in the clash and two others were later captured by security forces. "This attempt by our group and its fighters in the seven-day war and occupied lands. Our answer will be delivered in the proper place, proper way and at the proper time," it warned. The Islamic Jihad movement in Palestine fired Katyusha rockets at northern Israel during a seven-day Israeli offensive on South Lebanon last month. "Our jihad (holy war) will be intensified and God willing will rage on until victory and liberation," the group said. It gave no more details of the attackers and said reporting the incident was delayed so the gunmen could be tracked down.

## POSITION VACANCY PROJECT MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST (MATERNAL CHILD HEALTH AND POSTPARTUM SERVICES)

The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) has a vacancy for a Project Management Specialist in its Office of Population and Family Health. The incumbent will serve as Project Manager of a new Comprehensive Postpartum Project and advise USAID management on aspects relating to maternal and child health and population programme planning and development needs in Jordan. Salary will be commensurate with qualifications and prior work experience. The position requires:

1. A Bachelor's degree in health or allied fields. Preference will be given to holders of Master's or Ph.D. degrees in public health or population dynamics.
2. Four to seven years of progressively responsible professional level experience in health programme management, including experience in analysis and interpretation of data and presentation of findings in written and oral form is required. However, graduate degrees, such as M.A., M.S., M.P.H., Ph.D. etc., may be substituted for a portion of the work experience. At least two years of the work experience should have been in responsible development assistance or related work for a national or an international organisation.
3. A thorough knowledge of Jordan's health sector — both public and private — and health care issues and needs.
4. Excellent command of the English and Arabic languages — both writing and speaking — is required.

Interested Jordanian candidates who believe they have the required qualifications and work experience to fill this position may apply, in writing, submitting an application to the USAID Executive Office/Personnel Section, together with a sample writing skills and documentation supporting qualifications, no later than August 26, 1993. Application forms are available at the American Embassy — front gate.

## FOR RENT

Ground floor fully-furnished apartment with garden and garage in Jabal Amman Fourth Circle area, near Al Khalidi Hospital. Three bedrooms, salon and dining, sitting room, and all facilities. Please call 642789 between 9 a.m.-2 p.m. and 4-7 p.m.

## LOCAL ORGANISATION IS SEEKING A JORDANIAN FEMALE

- Graduate of Faculty of Engineering
- Fluent in English & Arabic
- Well-organised
- Highly motivated and energetic
- Works well with people
- Dynamic & Hard working

For more information please call 658696

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

### JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 77111-19

### PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 Rotour a Samarkand  
19:00 News in French  
19:15 Magazine Sportif  
19:30 News in Hebrew  
20:00 News in Arabic  
20:30 Golden Girls  
21:10 Thirty Something  
22:00 News in English  
22:20 Colombo

### PRAYER TIMES

04:31 Fajr  
05:55 Sunrise  
12:40 Dhuhr  
16:19 Asr  
19:25 Maghreb  
20:49 Isha

### CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swetfish, Tel. 111740  
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 63785  
St. Joseph Church Tel. 634591  
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440  
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757  
Terrence Church Tel. 622366  
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541

### Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 62843

Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331  
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261  
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751  
Armenian International Church Tel. 625256  
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 824328  
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Tel. 823824, 654932  
Church of Nazareth Tel. 675691

### WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be relatively hot and winds will be northeasterly light to moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Min./Max. temp. 19 / 34  
Aqaba 26 / 39  
Deserts 18 / 37  
Jordan Valley 23 / 39

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 34, Aqaba 39 Humidity readings: Amman 24 per cent, Aqaba 33 per cent.

### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

#### NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:  
Dr. Mohammad Al Ghoul 790730  
Dr. Jamal Al Ja'bari 796460  
Dr. Yousef Nasir 751144  
Dr. Mahmoud Amir 688883  
First pharmacy 661912  
Fendous pharmacy 778336  
Al Asema pharmacy 637055  
Nairookh pharmacy 623672  
Al Salam pharmacy 636730  
Yacoub pharmacy 649445  
Shimciani pharmacy 637660  
Nairookh pharmacy 623672  
Najib pharmacy 847632

### IRBID:

Dr. Mohammad Al Za'bi (—)  
Aldous pharmacy (—)

### ZARQA:

Dr. Walood Halasa 982799  
Khalifeh pharmacy 983417

### EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre 637111  
Civil Defence Department 661111  
Civil Defence Immediate 630341  
Rescue 199  
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777  
Fire Brigade 891228  
Blood Bank 775121  
Highway Police 843402  
Traffic Police 896390  
Public Security Department 630721  
Hotel Complaints 605830  
Price Complaints 661176  
Water and Sewerage 897467  
Complaints 787111  
Arman Municipality 610230  
Repairs 623101  
Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101  
Jordan Television 771111  
Radio Jordan 774111  
Water Authority 680100  
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615  
Electric Power 636381  
RJ Flight Information 08-53200  
Queen Alia Intl. Airport 08-53200

### HOSPITALS

AMMAN:  
Hussein Medical Centre 813812/32  
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn. 644281/6  
Alkhalidi Maternity, J. Amn. 624412  
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362  
Malhas, J. Amman 636140  
Palestine, Shimciani 664171/3  
Shimciani Hospital 843045  
University Hospital 667279  
Al-Mushor Hospital 666127/57  
Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164/6  
Italian, Al-Muhajreen 77101/3  
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 77511/26  
Army, Marfa 891611/15  
Queen Alia Hospital 60224/50  
Amal Hospital 674155  
ZARQA:  
Zarqa Govt. Hospital 09983323  
Zarqa National Hospital 09900560  
Jbn Sina Hospital 09986732  
Al Hikma Modern Hospital 09990790  
IRBID:  
Princess Beama Hospital 02327555  
Greek Catholic Hospital 02327555  
Jbn Al Nafca Hospital 023247100  
AQABA:  
Princess Haya Hospital 03314111

### FOR THE TRAVELLER

#### QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06)53200-5, where it should always be verified.

#### ARRIVALS

##### Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

06:15 Sanaa (RJ)  
07:30 Damascus (RJ)  
08:30 Jeddah (RJ)  
08:30 Riyadh (RJ)  
08:30 Cairo, Aqaba (RJ)  
08:30 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)  
08:30 Beirut (RJ)  
08:30 New Delhi (RJ)  
08:30 Cairo (RJ)  
08:30 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)  
08:30 Bangkok (RJ)  
08:30 Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)  
08:30 Rhodes (RJ)  
08:30 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)  
08:30 Damascus (RJ)  
08:30 Abu Dhabi, Muscat (RJ)  
08:35 Moscow (RJ)

### Other Flights (Terminal 2)

09:30 Aden (AL)  
11:15 Khartoum (SU)  
13:30 Abu Dhabi, Doha (GF)  
15:30 Istanbul (TK)  
17:45 Amsterdam (KL)  
20:35 Cairo (MS)  
21:45 Dubai (EM)  
01:45 Vienna, Larnaca (OS)  
01:45 Dubai (KL)

#### DEPARTURES

##### Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

07:30 Beirut (RJ)  
12:30 Amsterdam, Chicago (RJ)  
13:15 London (RJ)  
13:25 Frankfurt (LH)  
13:45 Cairo (RJ)  
14:50 Moscow (RJ)  
15:00 Rhodes (RJ)  
21:00 Doha (RJ)  
21:30 Bahrain (RJ)  
21:45 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)  
21:45 Damascus (RJ)  
22:30 Abu Dhabi, Muscat (RJ)

#### Other Flights (Terminal 2)

09:15 Beirut (ME)  
10:30 Aden (AL)  
12:15 Khartoum (SU)  
14:50 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi, Muscat (GF)  
16:35 Istanbul (TK)

### MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in Jds per kg.

Apples 300/200  
Bananas 680 / 680  
Banana (Malabar) 620 / 620  
Beans 130 / 50  
Cabbage 100 / 50  
Carrot 280/20  
Cauliflower 180 / 100  
Cherry (red) 300 / 60  
Cucumbers (large) 100 / 50  
Cucumbers (small) 170 / 20  
Eggplant 170 / 30  
Garlic 700 / 50  
Grapes 300/20  
Lemon 240/20  
Marrow (large) 580 / 40  
Marrow (small) 250 / 20  
Mint 30  
Okra 650/30  
Onion (red) 140 / 70  
Orange 300/20  
Peaches 600/50  
Pepper (hot) 300 / 30  
Pepper (sweet) 300 / 220  
Potato 230 / 150  
Tomato 240/150  
Watermelon 140/60



## Queen inaugurates Children's Bank

AMMAN (J.T.) — On the occasion of the anniversary of His Majesty King Hussein's accession to the Throne, Her Majesty Queen Noor Sunday inaugurated the Children's Bank.

A branch of the Housing Bank located at the Haya Cultural Centre, the Children's Bank aims at familiarising youth with the concept of banking and encouraging them to save money.

The Queen was received by Inam Al Mufti, president of the Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF) and Zuhair Khouri, chairman of the Board of Directors of the Housing Bank.

Queen Noor toured the bank premises and was briefed by Mr. Khouri on the philosophy and objectives of the branch.

Later, she toured various wings at the Haya Cultural Centre including the astrological dome, for which NHF provided equipment with help from the Japanese government.

The Queen also visited the Science Museum, which was founded in 1986 by NHF in cooperation with the Haya Cultural Centre. The experiments and demonstrations displayed at the



Her Majesty Queen Noor Sunday tours a unit of the Haya Cultural Centre. Accompanying the Queen here are her daughters Princesses Rayana and Princess Inman, as well as Princess Ghida Talal (Petra photo).

museum were developed and provided for by the centre's personnel.

Queen Noor is interested in further developing the museum in order to meet the needs of the children and linking it to developments in science and technology.

As an outreach programme for the Science Museum, the Mobile Life and Science Museum was initiated in 1988. It delivers services to children who have no access to such facilities.

The museum's exhibits relate

to the experiences of rural children and focus on health and hygiene, sciences, preservation of the environment, and the history of Jordan.

Queen Noor also toured the theatre, the library and the arts wing, which have been renovated to meet the changing needs of the children.

Accompanying the Queen were their Royal Highnesses Princess Ghida Talal, Princess Rayana, Princess Inman and Miss Abir Mubeisen.

## 49.2% of women support female quota for House — Petra survey

AMMAN (Petra) — An opinion poll conducted on a sample of 400 women by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, at the beginning of August showed that 49.25 per cent of the respondents support (a quota) assigning seats for women in the next Lower House of Parliament which will be elected in November.

Of the women polled, 56.25 per cent said they would vote in the elections.

The poll surveyed women over 19 years old, living in different areas of Jordan, and of varying cultural backgrounds.

More than 52 per cent of the women were employed by the private or public sectors, nearly 18 per cent were housewives and more than nine per cent were students.

More than 63 per cent had university degrees and 2.5 per cent were illiterate.

The survey revealed that 27 per cent of the women said they will

support female candidates in the November elections and 49.75 per cent said they believed that relatives and acquaintances will strongly influence women's decisions on voting.

Only 18.5 per cent of the women in the survey believed that women will turn out in strength to cast ballots in the coming elections, and 68 per cent said that cultural background will have the greatest influence on women's participation in the elections.

According to the results of the survey, some women opposed the quota for women in parliamentary seats because they said that democracy requires that women and men should run on equal terms.

Those who backed the women's quota said that this practice should be followed only for one or two elections so that the people become accustomed to seeing women in Parliament.

## Majali urges water recycling, modern techniques in agriculture

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali Sunday urged the Ministry of Agriculture to use the treated waste water from Khirbet Al Samra plant to irrigate trees in lands surrounding the plant and encourage the utilisation of drip irrigation systems.

Addressing a meeting by the ministry's Planning Committee, Dr. Majali said that planting forest trees will contribute towards greening the Kingdom, an objective set for the year 2000.

Stressing the importance of trees in preventing soil erosion and contributing to a healthier environment, the prime minister said trees can also help promote the tourism industry.

Dr. Majali emphasised the need for ministry departments to

work towards increasing food production, adding that ministry engineers and extension staff should provide advice and guidance directly to farmers on modern techniques and applying drip irrigation which proved to be immensely successful.

The prime minister underlined the importance of decentralising the ministry and said that an employee incentive system should be adopted and excellent staff should be awarded.

The committee members briefed the premier on the ministry's projects including conducting agricultural surveys, combating rodents in the tribal governorate and other matters pertaining to the agricultural sector.

Agriculture Minister Marwan Kamal, who heads the commit-

tee, presented a report on the outcome of his recent visit to China and the Chinese experiments in seed production, food industries and the creation of integrated farms.

Noting that the rodent problem has been contained, Dr. Kamal reported that crops on 300 dunams of land were damaged by the pests.

Discussion at the meeting touched on a three-stage programme of soil classification in Jordan, a project which started in 1989 and was financed by a grant from the European Community (EC). The project is being implemented in cooperation with a British firm at an overall cost of four million ECUs (European Currency Units).

## Training centre offers 4 new courses

AIN AL BASHA (Petra) — Minister of Labour Khaled Al Ghazawi Sunday opened training courses for four specialised trades currently in demand in the local labour market.

The new courses are being offered by the Ain Al Basha Vocational Training Centre, which also offers training in 18 other trades.

The courses opened by the minister in a formal ceremony here, are in hairdressing, baking, industrial garment-making and

radio and television maintenance. The centre's director, Younis Khanfar, briefed Mr. Ghazawi on the development of the various trades and the programmes offered to trainees.

Mr. Khanfar noted that the centre, offers wide-ranging training programmes lasting between several months and two years, depending on the nature of the trade.

So far the centre, which is run by the Vocational Training Corporation (VTC), has turned out

8,000 graduates who obtained practical training at 578 privately owned businesses and workshops in the Amman area.

Also 800 job-seekers were offered short-term training in central heating, plumbing, sanitation, construction, auto mechanics and electricity, said Mr. Khanfar.

In cooperation with the Ain Al Basha Municipality, the centre has created a new line of trades for females, Mr. Khanfar added.

## Princess Sarvath welcomes Red Cross, Red Crescent campers

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Royal Highness Princess Sarvath Al Hassan Sunday opened an international youth camp organised by the Jordan National Red Crescent Society (JNRCS) at Amman's Crown Hotel.

In an address at the opening ceremony, Princess Sarvath welcomed the participants who represent Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in Egypt, Iraq, Libya, Lebanon, Palestine,

Qatar, Syria, Tunisia, Austria, Britain, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Greece, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands and Spain, in addition to Jordan.

"I would like to welcome all of you today, and particularly those who have come to our country from far and wide to participate in this summer camp which the Jordanian Red Crescent is proud to be hosting," Princess Sarvath said.

"The world is facing many conflicts and tragedies, and we in the movement must always remember Article 1 of the Declaration of Human Rights which says 'all human beings should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood,'" she said.

"Sadly, though, we continue to come across those for whom these words still have no meaning, but nevertheless we must always stand firm to our commit-

ment to universal ideals. In an address to the World Conference on Human Rights held recently in Vienna, my husband, Crown Prince Hassan, said 'we are responsible for the future that awaits our children, and humanity as a whole, for abuses of human rights offend the dignity of not only the victims, but of us all. We are all members of one family — humanity — sharing our one Earth in common. At great

cost we have learned the importance of caring for the Earth — we must also learn to care for those that live on it.'"

The Princess expressed hope that the 100 participants in the week-long camp will form friendships with each other that

will create strong and everlasting bonds between the youth movements of their countries.

## Orthodox society, AUB sign education agreement

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Orthodox Educational Society in Amman and the American University of Beirut (AUB) Sunday signed a cultural and educational cooperation agreement, under which the university will contribute to developing the educational process at the society's school. The development areas include curricula, teacher training and training of administrative staff at the society's schools, which accommodate 2,200 students.

Under the agreement, the society will pay the university \$18,000 per annum, in addition to costs of training and development activities.

The agreement was signed for the society by its President Fuad Farraj, while for the AUB it was signed by its vice-president for educational research, development and external training, Abdul Hamid Halab.

On the occasion, a ceremony for exchanging agreement documents was held, during which both Dr. Halab and Mr. Farraj spoke about the importance of this agreement and its role in upgrading educational standards of the society's schools to levels similar to those of the best foreign schools.

In his address, Mr. Farraj said that society takes pride in its educational achievements of the past 35 years, which included the founding of prosperous and well-reputed educational institutions at both the local and foreign levels. He voiced pride in signing the agreement, saying it opens a new chapter of distinguished educational cooperation with the AUB.

The society's administrative committees and its successive committee and councils have worked hard through the available means and resources to develop its educational institutions, until it achieved its present, unique status, which is characterised by efficiency, Mr. Farraj said.

He added that the society had constructed over the past three years a new, modern building for its Ashrafieh kindergarten and school. It also built a modern wing, an additional theatre stage at Wahbeh Tamari Kindergarten and a new building for administration and the necessary educational services at the Shmeisani school, including a centre for educational resources, a language laboratory and additional science laboratory, a health care

centre, a modern library, warehouses, a vocational training workshop, a fully-equipped home economics training hall, a multipurpose room, rooms for coordinators and sports activities.

Mr. Farraj added that the society had worked hard to upgrade the professional performance of its teachers, by sending them on educational scholarships to obtain diplomas of higher education, masters degree, on-the-job training and involving them in specialised training courses held inside and outside the country.

The society has directed, over the past three years, great attention to developing the use of the various educational resources, having made the necessary plans to achieve this," Mr. Farraj said.

The society had purchased modern computers and assigned for each student new computer to replace the old ones.

All Shmeisani school teachers are now being trained on using the computers as part of a computer training programme. The school library will be computerised as soon as the library is modernised. Work is also underway to provide modern and advanced laboratory for teaching languages.

Mr. Farraj also said that a teaching resource unit has been established at the Shmeisani school to serve all teachers at the society's schools. The unit was equipped with the necessary educational equipment as well as a video library for various subjects.

However, the society will continue to update this video library because of its importance to the teaching-learning process. Computers and other educational means have now become a necessity for all fields, particularly education, Mr. Farraj said.

The accelerated educational developments and innovations have affected all spheres, including methods of education, educational programmes, various educational services, teacher training, educational counselling and other educational activities which, together, seek to encourage innovation and creativity.

In its search to achieve these goals, the society has been looking for an educational institution, capable of helping the society achieve the sought educational development. This explains the society's selection of the AUB, which enjoys a vast



educational experience in the Middle East.

The AUB has graduated prominent education leaders from our region and from Jordan in particular. The university also took part in a number of studies on educational issues in our region, and has contributed towards educational developments in a scientific manner. Moreover, the university has been keen on keeping pace with scientific and educational developments. Winding up his address, Mr. Farraj said the agreement was the culmination of various meetings and contacts between representatives of the society and the AUB in Amman and Beirut. These meetings were initiated in April.

For his part, Dr. Halab lauded the agreement with the Orthodox Educational Society, saying that it represents a new phase in the society's life. He voiced confidence that the agreement will add a new chapter to the Orthodox Schools' outstanding record in serving and developing the community.

"The AUB, as you know, has been striving for more than a decade and a quarter to achieve its educational aim, that of providing the rising generations with a better life," Dr. Halab said. He added that this is the message of the university which has been launched by its founder Daniel Bess in 1866.

The AUB knows well that some of its graduates were from among the students of the Orthodox schools, and that many of them have held senior positions and made great contributions to Jordan and the Arab World.

The university, while signing this agreement with

the Orthodox School today, is pursuing its purpose. The AUB has felt that it was not enough for it to receive, students and offer them quality education but it should extend a helping hand to educational institutions and support them in achieving and developing their educational targets.

Therefore, he said, the relation between the university and the society is based on mutual cooperation. The essence of this relation is education, culture, progress and development, he said.

The university, while initiating this contractual agreement with the Orthodox School today, pledges to remain open for cooperation with all schools and educational institutions which share its aims regarding education, progress and development.

Dr. Halab thanked the school for the hospitality accorded to him and for its confidence in the AUB, and relayed the gratitude of his colleague, Dr. Mounir Bashour, head of the Education Department at the AUB.

The agreement, which takes effect immediately after the signing by the two parties concerned, provided for the following:

1. The AUB will provide advisory services in the administrative and organisational areas and the development of curricula and educational programmes, including the GCE, computer training, language training (English and French), development of library activities, laboratories, educational materials used in the society's schools and various activities and student counselling services.

Such advisory services will take the form of field

visits by staff from the AUB, in accordance with field visit schedules agreed upon by both parties.

Both parties will determine whether additional advisory services are needed during meetings in Beirut to be agreed upon by both parties.

2. Holding education workshops for teaching and/or administrative staff in the necessary areas, agreed upon by both parties.

Workshops are designed to upgrade the professional standards of staff at the society's educational institutions in Amman.

3. Training and teaching administrative staff at workshops and training courses held by the AUB in Beirut. Any announcement in the media of this agreement requires the prior consent of both parties of the advertisement text, timing and means.

4. Any dispute or misunderstanding about the interpretation, application or implementation of this agreement shall be referred to an arbitrator agreed upon by both parties. The ruling of the arbitrator, or arbitrators, which is taken by consensus or majority vote, shall be final and binding on both parties and shall not be subject to contesting by either party. Arbitration shall take place in Beirut, Lebanon, in accordance with the Lebanese laws.

The agreement shall be of a one-year duration.



The AUB is party to educational training and development agreements held with the state Jordanian universities. Attending the AUB are more than 200 Jordanian students. The university gives priority to Jordanian students with high grades.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

### EXHIBITIONS

- \* Exhibition of paintings by Jordanian artist Bishara Najjar at Eshebbel Art Gallery, Amra Shopping Centre. The paintings depict Jordanian-Palestinian heritage, Jordanian antiquities, Arab Jerusalem, rural life and natural scenery.
- \* Exhibition of a new collection of art works by Princess Wijdan Ali at The Gallery, Hotel Jordan Inter-Continental.

- \* Exhibition entitled "Hasbeme Paintings" by Jordanian artist Iyad Al Masri at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- \* Exhibition of paintings by 25 Jordanian artists at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- \* Exhibition by Iraqi artists Mohammad Hosseini and Shawkat Al Alosi at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- \* Exhibition of paintings by a group of young Jordanian artists at the Royal Cultural Centre.

# Opening Tomorrow



## Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation.  
Established 1975  
مجلس التحرير يديره هيئة عربية سياسية مستقلة تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية

Chairman of the Board of Directors:  
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MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor-in-Chief:  
GEORGE S. HAWATMEH

Editorial and advertising offices:  
Jordan Press Foundation,  
University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171/6, 670141-4

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Facsimile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.  
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## Brutality breeds violence

ON SATURDAY, Egyptian Chief Judge Wahid Mahmoud Ibrahim, presiding over a special security court, acquitted 24 defendants accused of assassinating Parliament Speaker Rifaat Al Mahjoub on Oct. 12, 1990. Judge Ibrahim said his court had found that all the defendants were severely tortured and one partially paralysed as a result. The judge said the defendants "were subjected to the ugliest forms of torture, including electric shock, hanging by the arms, blindfolding and handcuffing."

Noting that none of 100 witnesses the state produced had identified any of the alleged assassins, the judge said that "the judiciary's conscience rejects these ugly methods. The acts of the security authorities reflect their shortcomings in discovering proof."

Had Judge Ibrahim possessed the mandate to judge the political system in Egypt there is no doubt he would have gone on to describe the shortcomings of a security regime that rounds people up at random, tortures them and makes them sign false confessions. The war that this regime is waging against Islamists and the methods it uses in the process have been condemned by all human rights organisations and by friends of Egypt in the West.

Arbitrary arrests, torture that leads to disability and at times death, are symptomatic of a regime that seems to have lost its way in dealing with its people and opponents. We do not of course condone any acts of violence committed by the opponents of the regime no matter how just their cause or grievances are. However, we believe that unjustified brutality and repression cannot be the answer to any problem. Reform, justice and democracy are, on the other hand, a sure way to tackle Egypt's woes head on. We are all aware, or should be, that whatever happens in Egypt in these trying and uncertain times is bound to have a big impact on all neighbouring countries. That is why we view with utmost concern the disturbing political developments in the most populous Arab country. And that is why we expect all advocates of human rights, especially Arabs, to emulate the decency and courage of Judge Ibrahim in rejecting the brutal methods of the Egyptian security apparatus, which continue to push a sizeable portion of its population to the extreme limits of radicalisation.

## ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

BY ISSUING an ultimatum to Libya to hand over the two nationals allegedly involved in the downing of an American airliner over Scotland, the U.S., France and Britain are threatening to starve the Libyan people for no crime they committed, said Al Ra'i Arabic daily. While issuing threats and imposing sanctions in the most racist and terrorist manner against the Arabs and Muslims, these Western nations, masquerading as the United Nations, are overlooking, if not condoning, Israel's barbaric actions and violations of human rights, let alone its continued occupation of Arab lands, said the daily. Israel's actions in defiance of the world community, its refusal to implement U.N. Security Council resolutions and other daily practices against the oppressed people of Palestine are together a manifestation of disregard of international rules, and escaping retribution for its actions, said the daily. These three nations, which are responsible in history for the death of millions of innocent people, are appointing themselves as the police of the world, biased in their actions and turning their venom against their enemies under the protection and umbrella of the United Nations, added the daily. France, the U.S. and Britain have committed atrocities against the Vietnamese, the Algerians, the Yemenis, the Irish, the Somalis and the Iraqis, to name a few, and they are now finding a pretext to impose their domination on the Arabs through accusing two Libyan nationals of being behind the Lockerbie affair, continued the paper. It said that it goes without saying that these Western nations, which have their eyes on the Arab World's oil wealth, are victimising the innocent people of Libya, depriving them of their food and basic necessities.

MAHMOUD RIMAWI, a columnist in Al Ra'i daily said Sunday that the foreign ministers of Arab states involved in the peace process should not make of their coordination meetings a regular habit or simply meet to reaffirm their united stand. The writer called on the ministers, who are to meet on Aug. 20 in Beirut to demand that the U.S.-Israeli alliance disband the so-called Lahad army, announce a programme for gradual Israeli withdrawal from the southern regions of Lebanon and declare a compensation plan benefitting the residents of southern Lebanon who lost their homes in the latest Israeli aggression. With regard to Jerusalem in the peace talks, said the writer, the foreign ministers have a responsibility to insist that the status of the Holy City tops the Arab-Israeli peace agenda, demanded the writer. He said that Arab Jerusalem was part of the Palestinian Arab land occupied in the 1967 war and no one can deny this fact. He said that Israel's continued occupation of the city represents a flagrant defiance of the feelings of millions of believers in God. By excluding the Jerusalem question from the talks, said the writer, Israel is aiming at cancelling for ever the fact that the Holy City falls under the sovereignty of the Arab and Muslim nations.

## Kuwaitis — once again a minority at home

By Donna Abu Nasr  
The Associated Press

KUWAIT — Under the scorching desert sun, now as before, Bangladeshis collect the garbage, Indians keep the parks green, Filipinos do the fishing, Filipinos wash cars and wait tables. From their air-conditioned homes, offices and cars, Kuwait's pampered citizens have watched the fizzling of the social revolution many had envisioned after the liberation from Iraqi occupation in February 1991.

When the Gulf war was over, the government started a "Kuwaitisation" programme aimed at drastically reducing the number of foreign workers. But Abdullah Al Nibari, a member of parliament, said the plan "has evaporated."

Before Iraq invaded Kuwait in 1990, foreign workers were nearly 80 per cent of the 2.2 million people living in Kuwait. The announced goal of the government programme was to cut that figure in half.

The invasion galvanised many Kuwaitis who found it rewarding to fend for themselves, and the 650,000 native Kuwaitis were a majority for a short time after the war because most foreigners had fled.

Foreigners are streaming back, however, and native Kuwaitis make up a steadily declining share of the population. Once again they are a minority — 40 per cent of the emirate's 1.6 million people, according to the latest official statistics.

Economic recovery has been

slowed because the government expelled the 400,000 Palestinians in retaliation for PLO support of Saddam Hussein. Palestinians had lived in Kuwait for decades, forming the core of the work force and filling most middle-management jobs.

Rebuilding the shattered military also has been difficult because young Kuwaitis are reluctant to enlist. Stateless Arabs, usually of Iraqi or Syrian origin, were the backbone of the prewar army, but many have been dismissed because of questions about their loyalty.

Kuwait's dependence on foreign labour began when it started exporting oil in 1946. The oil boom brought unexpected riches to its people, mostly bedouin, and turned the emirate into one of the world's wealthiest countries.

It became a magnet for impoverished Asians and Arabs. The Kuwaitis, pampered by a welfare state that saw to all their needs, were content to let others do the work.

Fuad Al Hashem, a columnist for the daily Al Watan, lamented: "Before that, you could find Kuwaiti mechanics, artisans, house servants, whatever. It's very different now. We've become a community of cellular telephones and pagers. This is a dangerous phenomenon. It's said to see Kuwaitis distracted by these machines and producing nothing."

The ruling Al Sabah family has been careful over the years to keep their people quiescent and content. The government em-

ploys about 90 per cent of the 100,000 Kuwaitis who work, and pays them an estimated \$6.3 billion a year. Salaries are the largest budget item, roughly equal to the 1992-1993 deficit.

In addition to generous salaries, the government payroll offers short working hours, job security and supervisors who overlook low productivity.

Since the war, the government has made up all pay its Kuwaiti employees lost, raised salaries 25 per cent, covered billions of dollars in mortgage and other losses, increased aid to Kuwaiti men who marry Kuwaiti women, raised the monthly child allowance from \$100 to \$175 and made assistance to widows more generous.

"It's as if the government wants to put people to sleep... to stop them thinking and asking questions," Mr. Al Hashem wrote. "The government has made no effort to inject life into them."

Mr. Al Nibari, an economist, said: "Poor management has led to low productivity by Kuwaitis. It will take time, training and education to change that. The problem can't be solved overnight. In the short term, it's a good thing there are people to do the menial jobs Kuwaitis refuse to do — and for low wages," he said, but added that dependence on foreign labour may create cultural and social problems.

He expects the most serious to be the government's inability to absorb all the young job-seekers who will flood the market in a few years. About 60 per cent of Kuwaitis are 19 or younger.

## Weekly Political Pulse

## Israeli — PLO direct talks are imminent

Whether the "resignation" of Faisal Hussein, Hanan Ashrawi and Dr. Saeb Erakat, the three Palestinian delegates to the bilateral peace talks with Israel, from their position as negotiators on behalf of the Palestinian people was for real or a mere theatrical performance, the end result is the same: The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) is edging closer to direct and open contacts and negotiations with Israel.

In fact, the more one examines the developments that preceded and accompanied the "resignation" chapter, the more it becomes irrefutable that the intents and purposes of all the principle actors in scene one, two and three were to get Israel and the PLO ever closer to direct and public dealings based on mutual recognition.

So there were few surprises when Mr. Hussein, Mrs. Ashrawi and Mr. Erakat withdrew their resignation, or had their resignation rejected by the PLO Executive Committee, in a remarkable and dramatic show-of-Palestinian democracy.

If the 11th round of bilateral peace talks is going to live up to the current expectations and go down in the annals of the Arab-Israeli peace process as the determining chapter in the peace parleys, then the Palestinian domestic performance, especially between the tenth and eleventh session of the negotiations, coupled with the Israeli public and private reaction to it can only be seen as setting the stage for the final show or showdown on the most critical part of the Arab-Israeli peace negotiations.

In retrospect, the Palestinian orchestration of the events that led to the resignation of the three negotiators was masterful. For a while, the Tunis-based PLO leadership appeared to be more flexible and conciliatory than the "local Palestinian leadership." On the issue of Jerusalem, for example, the PLO chairman appeared to be more "accommodating" than Mr. Hussein and his colleagues on the Palestinian team by offering to accept delaying the negotiations

determining its future until a later stage. It will be recalled that the negotiators from the West Bank were all of the same mind on the need to "mention" East Jerusalem, for the interim agreements purposes, as well.

The Israeli side did not seem to take the PLO bite publicly, but there are strong signals from the incumbent Israeli leadership that the time of reckoning has indeed arrived and that they must deal directly and openly with the PLO, which is alone capable of delivering when it comes to solid agreements and significant concessions.

This is in essence what the PLO wanted to say all along to the Rabin government where it already enjoys considerable acceptance by several key ministers. The Israeli Labour-led government is inching slowly but surely to the inevitability of talking straight with the PLO leadership. This projection is further reinforced by the PLO decision to give the three Palestinian negotiators official titles within the PLO hierarchy.

When Israel talks with PLO in September, it will be dealing in effect with PLO officials. There is no escape from this conclusion.

Against this backdrop, there is now a heightened expectation that the upcoming round of talks will be a harbinger of real breakthrough in the peace process. There will be many other snags along the way for sure. One of the biggest hurdles facing the Israeli-Palestinian track was over the issue of the role of the PLO in the peace talks. This controversy is now behind us and with its resolution there is a sense of euphoria that the remaining dimensions of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict will begin to unravel in the 11th round. Coupled with the apparent readiness of the Rabin government to withdraw completely from the Golan Heights, in return for complete peace with Damascus, there is no reason why the next few peace sessions will not produce results to the near satisfaction of the other parties.

## LETTERS

### Colonels, too, have opinion

To the Editor:

I am extremely sorry for causing such an uproar regarding my letter to the editor published in the Jordan Times of Aug. 5, 1993. I realise that others would like to write on other issues but I would appreciate if I could clarify once and for all my remarks to those angry and discontented few who, I wish, read my letter very thoroughly before replying.

It seems to me that I have touched on issues I should not have tackled and I would like to thank P.V. Vivekanand who labelled me as a writer of a journalistic masterpiece and an analyst, which I never claimed to be or aspire to be.

For his information, I am an educated person, even colonels in the army are educated, and I hold two degrees from the University of New Hampshire in the United States and speak French and very fluent English and read the Arab and foreign papers and watch the CNN and I have watched the homeless sleeping in carton boxes in the streets and the subways in New York.

We in Jordan do not have that because we have our own values. My past history has nothing to do with the letter, by the way, and I did not write it to impress anybody. After 19 years of service, I feel that I have done my duty to my country which gave me the security and the future. My letter was not meant to hurt or insult and I did mention Jordanians as well, but they failed to mention that and picked the issues which they felt affected their own interest. But truth sometimes hurts.

I am not aspiring to a post nor to enter election or to be known in the mass media.

Anyway, I am sorry for that mistake, but I wonder, why, we, as Jordanians and citizens of this country that has the highest rate of educated people and degree holders cannot write or comment on issues that affect our values. These values cannot be imported, exported, hired, bought or borrowed. They are inherited in our culture, homes, traditions, tribal affiliations, hospitality, morality. I cannot impose our values on others nor others can impose or dictate on us how to behave, walk, eat, clean because that is our business and I wonder who appointed those few to tell us in the newspapers on how to run our lives.

We as Jordanians know what our problems are and we can solve them according to our limitations, but if the letters to the editor are being ordained to a few and privileged ones, then I withdraw my remarks and apologise.

I have not received any calls from any official or given moral support nor do I need any because I stand by what I wrote and I will leave the judgment on my letter to the public and to those who know what I mean by the values of Jordan.

I would like to thank the Jordan Times for giving the time to clarify my position which was wrongly interpreted.

Col. (Ret.) Nasser Mirza,  
Jordan Valley Arabian Stud,  
Amman.

### Water vs. tissue paper

To the Editor:

I address the following letter to Ann Sawalha and Col. Nasser Mirza.

I have read the dialogue going on in the Jordan Times about sanitation and hygiene and would like to mention a few things.

First, we live in a civilised and clean country, but we might sometimes, unwittingly and inadvertently, overlook cleanliness in public utilities and we apologise for this.

But this should not mean that we are responsible, as you have said, for ensuring the permanent presence of tissue paper in public toilets.

Second, we as a Muslim country realise too well the meaning and importance of cleanliness and our religion orders us to be clean. Our religion, according to the Koran, calls for the use of water, whenever it is available, for cleanliness, but there is no mention of tissue paper.

I say to Mrs. Sawalha that we knew the meaning and importance of cleanliness ages before she was born because cleanliness was ordered by God through his Holy Book. There are a Muslim, educated people with generous characters and manners.

If a vandal has sabotaged public utilities, this does not mean that the whole community is in need of education.

I thank the Jordan Times for publishing the letters and I ask that such dialogues be not restricted to those who have a strong command of the English language because most of our people have not received education abroad. I hope that the dialogue can be translated into Arabic so that we can comment on it in the Arabic language.

N. Hijazi,  
Amman.



## Fundamentalist groups said to seek coordination

By Ed Blanche  
The Associated Press

NICOSIA, Cyprus — Violent Islamic fundamentalist groups were linked only loosely for decades but now appear to be coming together with the encouragement of radical elements in Iran.

There are signs that the militants are forging alliances to overthrow secular Arab governments and present a cohesive challenge to the West.

Such coordination could move money, weapons and expertise among the groups more effectively, and vastly increase the difficulty of tracing those who plan and carry out acts of violence.

Specialists say getting such diverse organisations to cooperate takes time, and that any coordinated actions could be months away.

An important step towards united action may have been a meeting Feb. 2-7 in the Iranian capital, according to diplomats who monitor Iranian affairs, and security sources in Syria, Jordan and Cyprus.

They said the Tehran meeting brought together senior Iranian intelligence officials and representatives of militant groups to formulate a blueprint for "Islamic revolutionary action."

The Iranians, who are Shiite Muslims, have sought to increase cooperation between Shiite and Sunni Muslim radicals, who often lack coordination because they represent different branches of Islam.

"Iran is bringing Sunni and Shiites together in Sudan," said Paul Wilkinson of the Research Institute for the Study of Conflict and Terrorism in London. "This is sponsored and funded by Iranian intelligence and covert operations specialists. Iran has long wanted a coalition of this sort and the time is right, given the tide of Islamic revivalism. Iran and its proxies now seem to be able to operate a long way from home and there seems to be much more coordination."

The sources who described the February meeting said there was agreement in principle on a new strategy against the secular Arab governments of Egypt, Algeria and Jordan, as well as the Turkish government. Assassinations would be one tool, but details were to be worked out later, said the sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Violent campaigns by Islamic fundamentalists already are under way in Egypt and Algeria. Another decision made at the Tehran meeting was to step up action against Iranian dissidents, particularly the Mujahideen Khalq, the main rebel movement, the sources said. The Mujahideen, based in Iraq, have become more active lately.

Iran established a budget of \$500 million, effective with the start of the Iranian new year March 21, to underwrite violent actions around the world, the sources reported.

They also said delegates to the meeting discussed resuming the seizure of American hostages if U.S. authorities carried out their threat to hunt down those who kidnapped Americans in Lebanon and bombed U.S. airliners. Former AP correspondent Terry Anderson, the last American hostage in the Middle East, was released Dec. 4, 1991.

Western officials say they view the threat of renewed hostage-taking seriously, particularly since Washington seems determined to pursue those it blames for anti-U.S. operations.

Thomas E. McNamara, head of counterterrorism at the State Department declared on March 12: "The message we're putting out to the terrorists... is that you can't hide, and no matter how long it takes, we're coming after you and we're going to get you."

The FBI arrest July 15 in Lagos, Nigeria, of Omar Moham mad Ali Rezaq, a suspected member of the Abu Nidal Palestinian faction wanted in a 1985 hijacking, underscored the U.S. warnings.

On March 5, the State Department described Iran as the "world's most dangerous state sponsor of terrorism."

Sources in Tehran told the AP the Iranian hierarchy believes the Americans are "out to get us" to avenge the seizure of U.S. hostages in Tehran in 1979 and the kidnappings and suicide bombings in Lebanon.

Much of the pressure for coordinated strategy came from the Islamic groups themselves, the sources said. But they added that ardent support was provided by former Interior Minister Ali Akbar Mohtashemi and other Iranian radicals, who are reviving the extremist policies that had ebbed after Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini died in June 1989.

These developments suggest that hardliners directed by Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, Iran's spiritual leader, have won the upper hand from Rafsanjani, whose so-called pragmatists had sought accommodation with the West.

Mr. Rafsanjani's government played a central role in securing the release of dozens of western hostages held by pro-Iranian Shiite extremists in Lebanon.

Iran hoped freeing the captives would bring reciprocal gestures from the United States, but nothing happened and Mr. Rafsanjani's credibility apparently was undermined.

Now the Americans are pressing their allies to curb trade with Iran until it toes the line.



## Yeltsin predicts breakthrough, but options are limited

By Ralph Boulton  
Reuters

MOSCOW — President Boris Yeltsin and his conservative parliament face each other this autumn like two exhausted warriors, each unable to play the other and too scared to sue for peace.

The prize, Russia, flinches with every blow.

Mr. Yeltsin broke a long silence this week to predict a "super-combative" September, but left Russia guessing how he planned to break a stalemate that threatens to wreck reform in the country.

For weeks rumours had circulated that the president was ill or his political powers fading as parliament rose in rebellion with a string of motions challenging his economic plans. Deputies plan a resolution on monitoring the health of leaders.

"I've been alarmed, dissatisfied, let's say, by the president's passive approach in recent time," Mikhail Potioranin, an aide and close confidant of Yeltsin told Reuters.

"He's in a woolly position and at such times he can lose his way... It's not physical illness," he said. "We talked to him in a serious manner and now he's back in fighting form."

Mr. Potioranin, one of Mr. Yeltsin's most radical allies, believes the president is emerging from his summer silence with radical plans to quell parliament and push through October elections.

"I have always told him that bloodless politics can end in great bloodshed," Mr. Potioranin commented, suggesting a political bloodletting could avert serious unrest in Russia.

Mr. Potioranin argues that Mr. Yeltsin has been deceived by Russia's Security Ministry, the former KGB. He says it lied to the president about the mood in the country and discouraged him from pressing home his victory in April's nationwide confidence vote.

He welcomed the recent and still not fully explained sacking of Security Minister Viktor Barannikov.

"I think it's a sign Mr. Yeltsin is ready for a new policy," Mr. Potioranin said. "He will either have to cross the line (of the constitution) or they (parliament) will wash away his presidential powers. It will be the one thing or the other."

Mr. Yeltsin has several times



gone to the brink of discarding the existing constitution and overriding parliament only to back down when more moderate counsels prevailed.

Mr. Potioranin lost the battle for Mr. Yeltsin's ear after the April referendum, when he pressed for a showdown with parliament.

Mr. Yeltsin was ultimately guided by his more moderate deputy Premier Sergei Shakhrai in summoning a Constitutional Assembly.

But the assembly has laid bare dangerous conflicts among Russia's local governments over regional powersharing. Approval of a draft has been denied by key regional administrations and the legislature has made it clear it would not endorse it.

Mr. Potioranin may err in thinking Yeltsin ready to take on parliament directly. The president may stand by moderate aides even if his instincts are for a quick, dramatic solution.

Parliament last month passed a series of motions doubling the budget deficit Mr. Yeltsin's government had planned and overruling his privatisation plans.

Mr. Yeltsin issued decrees overruling parliament and parliament replied in kind. Stalemate ensued.

Neither Mr. Yeltsin nor parliamentary chief Ruslan Khasbulatov, who argues the president's economic policies are laying waste to Russia, is able to deliver a political death blow.

The top legislature, the Congress of People's Deputies, will probably shrink from impeaching Mr. Yeltsin at its routine session in November. April's referendum affords cover still.

Congress, the supreme constitutional power, does have two

powerful weapons that could undermine presidential powers.

Last December it passed a constitutional amendment by which Mr. Yeltsin's powers would automatically pass to vice-president and rival Alexander Rutskoi if he violated the constitution.

Mr. Yeltsin would be unlikely to step down in such an event.

The generals would then be left to decide in their own way whether they recognised Mr. Yeltsin or Mr. Rutskoi as their commander-in-chief — a situation fraught with danger for all sides.

Congress's second threat to Mr. Yeltsin is an attack on his control of government. The smaller sitting parliament or Supreme Soviet is expected to debate a proposal that the legislature has the right to appoint or sack any minister.

Endorsement of such a measure by congress could force Mr. Yeltsin to step down or risk abandoning the constitution.

All parties in Russia's power struggle agree on a need for parliamentary elections to break the deadlock. Here again, it is the legislature that ultimately sets the terms.

Mr. Potioranin proposes a decree from Mr. Yeltsin setting polls for the month he has chosen — October. But by any strict interpretation of the constitution, which does not allow for dissolution of parliament, this would be unconstitutional.

Parliament may want to delay until early next year when uncertainty and hardship may have eroded Mr. Yeltsin's popularity. "If elections don't take place in the autumn, the situation may go beyond our control," moderate Yeltsin aide Vyacheslav Volkov commented.

## Nuclear power will test Japanese coalition's unity

By Yuki Aso  
Reuters

TOKYO — The unity of Japan's new coalition government will be put to an important test when the country's nuclear energy and plutonium-recycling programmes are discussed, analysts said.

Internal discord appears unavoidable, as conservatives in the coalition want to maintain current nuclear policies while the socialists are keen to review them, they said.

"They know what they are up against, and now they have to sweep aside differences... but it may be difficult," said Hiroki Kudo, a senior economist at Japan's Institute of Energy Economics.

"We must think realistically about nuclear power — realistically about securing diverse energy sources but also about nuclear safety," Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa has said.

Mr. Hosokawa, whose election last week ended 38 years of rule by the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), heads a coalition that embraces LDP splinter groups as well as the socialists and a union-backed group.

But except for political reform, coalition members seem able to agree only on the broad outlines of economic and foreign policies that even hardliners of the LDP could endorse, analysts said.

"Taking the issue of nuclear power alone, I can hardly believe this kind of government can last for long," said an analyst at Daiwa Institute of Research Ltd. Although the Socialists had dropped their more extreme left positions, a strong element in the party still wanted to abolish nuclear plants, political analysts said.

"No one in our party is so unrealistic as to call for the immediate abolition of nuclear power plants... What we want is a promise that nuclear plants will be replaced by those using much safer energy, such as solar power, over a certain period," a Socialist party official said.

Chances seemed slim that the two conservative coalition partners, the Japan Renewal Party and the Harbinger Japan New Party, would accept such demands and sacrifice their relationship with bureaucrats of the Ministry of International Trade

and Industry (MITI), who hoped to expand nuclear plants, analysts said.

MITI last year proposed raising nuclear power generation to 72 million kilowatts in 2010 from 34 million kilowatts in 1992.

MITI officials said Japan should stay with nuclear power unless it could secure substantial development funds for solar power and fuel cells.

"Conservatives not only place a great deal of faith in the nuclear power programme but must be reluctant to break the hand-in-glove relationship that MITI bureaucrats and the LDP nurtured over 38 years," the Daiwa analyst said.

MITI officials drafted practically every energy bill presented by the former LDP government, analysts said.

On Monday Mr. Hosokawa appointed former MITI bureaucrat Hiroshi Kumagai as the new trade minister.

Many socialists are eager to change this pattern of cooperation between the government and MITI and to prepare bills by themselves, party officials said.

There would also be heated debate if the socialists continued to demand an end to a project to develop commercially viable fast-breeder reactors (FBRs) on which MITI had spent billions of yen over the past decade, analysts said.

FBRs produce more plutonium than they consume, making them an attractive energy source.

Socialists oppose the projects, arguing that plutonium is too dangerous because even a small amount is enough to make nuclear weapons.

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## Gold sales soar in Shanghai

**SHANGHAI (R)** — Shanghai has become China's largest market for gold jewellery, with 200 gold shops already in business and another 200 applying for a licence, a local newspaper reported.

Sales in the first six months of this year have hit 12 tonnes, worth about 1.4 billion yuan (\$245 million at the official exchange rate), compared with 15 tonnes for the whole of last year, the Shanghai Star newspaper reported in its weekend edition.

Panic buying over fears of rising inflation is mainly responsible

for the dramatic increase in sales. But many residents, both men and women, are draping themselves with chunky gold necklaces and flashy rings to show off their new-found wealth.

The newspaper said daily sales of gold in Shanghai were running at around seven million yuan (\$1.2 million). Half of the jewellery was made in Shanghai and most of the rest came from other parts of China.

Shanghai's gold jewellery market, revived 10 years ago, is growing at an annual rate of 15 per cent, it was said.

Shanghai bankers were quoted as saying the city should establish a secondary market for gold jewellery, where people could

openly buy and sell. Banks will now buy gold, but at unattractive prices.

Some bankers said such a market would give the government greater control over money supply.

According to a study released last month by the United Bank of Switzerland, Chinese gold imports in 1992 could have totalled 300 tonnes.

Earlier this year consultants Gold Fields Mineral Services dubbed China the world's largest consumer.

Chinese buying helped gold's recovery this year from seven months earlier, when it fell to \$326 an ounce in March to a recent peak of about \$398, the highest since the 1991 Gulf war.

**LONDON (R)** — Pay increases in Britain's manufacturing industry fell to just 2.3 per cent in the second quarter of 1993, supporting hopes the economy might recover from recession without igniting a traditional wage-price spiral.

The Confederation of British Industry (CBI), a leading employers' group, said Monday the increase — the lowest in any quarter since its records began in 1977 — compared with a first-quarter 2.5 per cent and four per cent in the April-June period of 1992.

proving the competitiveness of U.K. manufacturing companies," the CBI report said.

But part of the productivity gains offered no surprises.

Output always rises faster than employment during the early stages of economic recovery, and the effective devaluation of the pound last September when it was forced out of the European Community's exchange rate mechanism has boosted exports sharply.

sharply. But the British government, accused of poor economic management in recent years, is hoping the productivity gains will prove permanent and wage deals will remain subdued.

British growth has traditionally floundered on rising wage pressures, a phenomenon which has plagued economic policy makers for decades and led to a stop-go economic cycle which has weakened Britain's industrial base.

But that seems to have changed, at least for now.

The Department of Employment reported last week the annual rise in average earnings fell to just 3.50 per cent in June from 3.75 per cent in May. A year earlier the annual rise was 6.25 per cent, and awards had been above six per cent since the 1960s.

Inflation, measured by the retail price index, fell to a year-on-year 1.2 per cent in June from 1.3 per cent in May and April. Its recent peak was 10.9 per cent in October 1990.

**NAIROBI (R)** — African coffee producers, alarmed by depressed world prices, meet in Uganda Monday to examine proposals for withholding some of their production from the market.

The aggressive plan is aimed at forcing up prices which slumped by 50 per cent when an International Coffee Organisation (ICO)

Coffee marketing officials said Sunday the three-day meeting of the Inter-African Organisation (IAOC) in Kampala would compare its position with that of producers from Brazil, Colombia, Indonesia and Central America.

To June, African producers meeting in Abidjan put together a detailed scheme to retain 15 per cent of their exports. Brazil, Colombia and five Central American countries agreed on July 4 to withhold 20 per cent of exports.

"There are a lot of similarities between our proposals and those of our friends from Brazil, Colombia, Indonesia and Central America," one IAOC official told Reuters. "It's a question of harmonising the two positions."

Another official added: "The retention scheme can only work if we producers formulate a united front. This is what we hope to achieve in Kampala."

Coffee prices have improved on the world market since the Latin American plan to withhold

Producer nations say they have lost \$10 billion in export revenue since then.

By restricting supply to the market, the producers want to force consumer nations to use up the stocks which have been depressing the market. Coffee stocks doubled to 18-20 million 60-kilogramme bags over the last four years.

"A retention scheme is the only way of stabilising prices," Uganda's Marketing Minister Richard Kajjuka said.

Mr. Kajjuka spoke after welcoming delegates from other producing nations who arrived in the East African country at the weekend to take part in the meeting.

African nations have lost up to \$1 billion since the 1989 collapse of the export quota system, blaming their inability to service their staggering foreign debts and joint economic recovery plans.

NUSA DUA, Indonesia (AFP) — China is a growing Asian and world economic power and should be involved in any major Asia-Pacific regional economic grouping, China experts have said here.

"No economic cooperation organisation in the region can leave out China," said Robert Chen, a professor of economics at the University of Hongkong and director of Asian studies.

He told an international conference here entitled "Indonesia, Asia Pacific and the New World Order," that China's role in any regional economic organisation was vital.

He added that although China was a keen competitor to other Asia Pacific economies, drawing foreign investment and exporting manufactured products, there was still room for economic cooperation and industrial division of labour.

"Regionalisation of the world economy has resulted in the emergence of a trading bloc in Europe and a free trade area in America. There is therefore, a compelling necessity for Asia Pacific economies to be more dependent on intra-regional eco-

nomic activities," be argued.

"In theory, China should be involved," said Robert Scalapino, of the Berkeley-based Institute of East Asian Studies, who is attending the conference, but this was not an imperative as it also depended on the scope and geographical proximity of the groupings.

He noted that the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN)'s joint economic efforts towards a free trade area excluded China.

Mr. Scalapino said China could become involved at a later stage once it had really emerged as a major power, economically and politically.

Drawing China into sub-regional and regional economic groupings would then allow other members to take advantage of the huge Chinese market while at the same time providing it with some of its essential needs, such as energy.

"By drawing China into regional agreements and institutional structures, any proclivities to play a dominant role or use force might be curbed," Mr. Scalapino added.

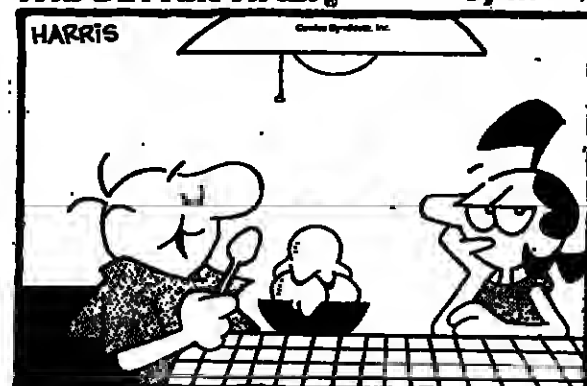
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will  
discover

BY

wearing  
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Jewellery

**\* DA JEWELLERS AND**  
**J**  
**Amra Hotel - Amman.**

## THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



**"My diet doctor says I can't have ice cream for dessert anymore...so I'm having it for an appetizer!"**

## JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME


Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

**DRAYT**  
 ○ ○ □ □ □ □ □ □  
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**SUDOE**  
 ○ □ □ □ ○ ○ □ □

**GUBORE**  
 □ □ □ ○ ○ □ □ □


**MORTS**



**WHAT DUNKING  
 MIGHT BE, BESIDES  
 BEING BAD  
 MANNERS.**

**MORTER**

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:  (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: PIETY EVOKE FORMAT POLISH  
Answer: What federal people run for offices probably did—QVFBSL 5PT

## Horoscope not received

**THE Daily Crossword** by Roger Jurgens

\_\_\_\_\_

[illegible]

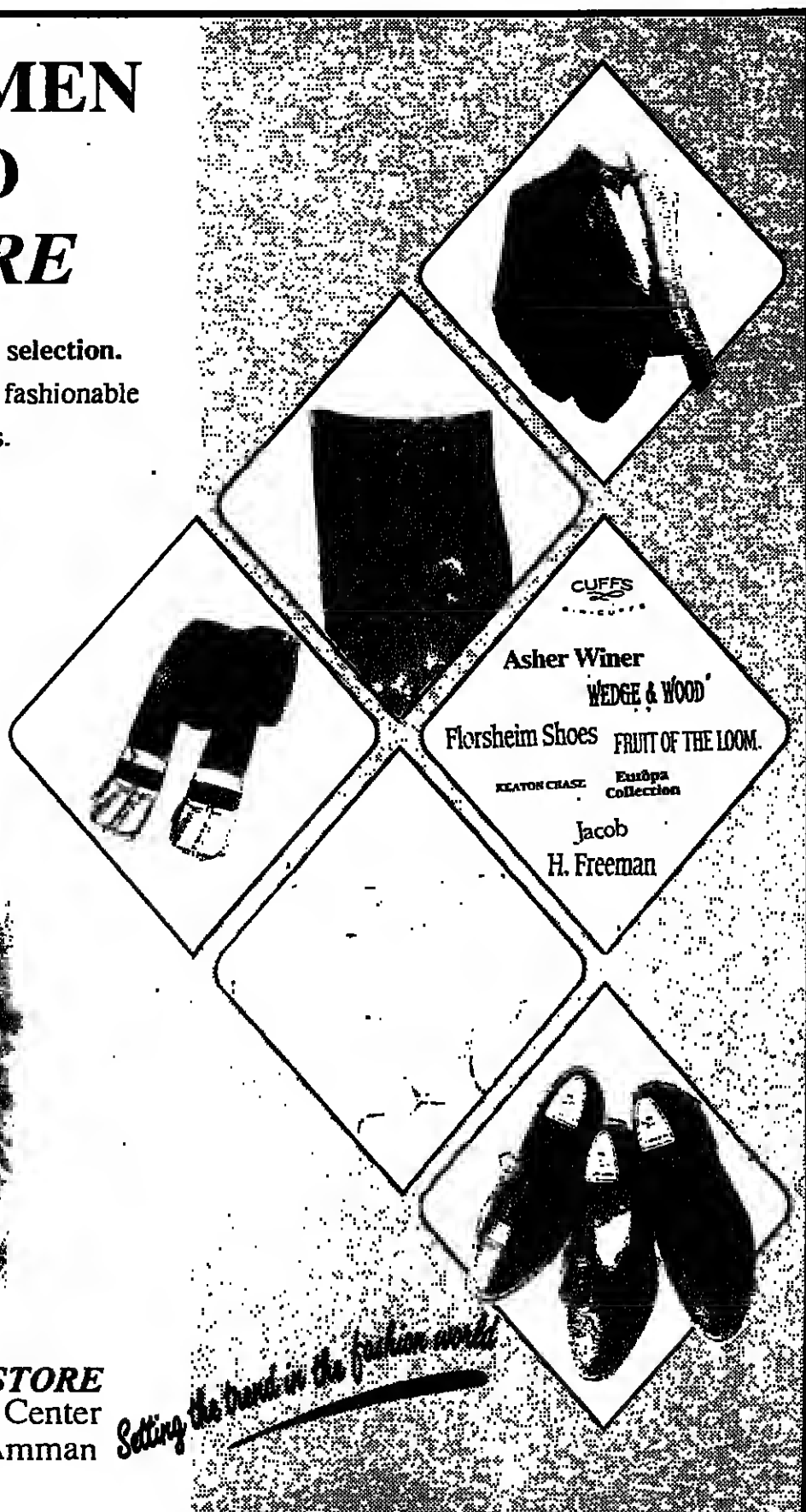
51 Small cut  
54 Cathedral

chair	11 New Jersey	SWAP POOP	
67 Gens	town	THROW STOLE	
Delist easily	12 Seed	TERESANORAD	
68 Consecutive	30 Appendix	ANIMATOR	
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— di	18 — on the chin	JOE JOE	
Lammermoor	22 Phew!	ACTOR SOBS	
67 1/2 million	24 Flair's tie	DEMOGRAPHICS	
59 Fourn	25 Suggest Mel	ERAS HUMPHRIES	
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58 — out (making do)	28 Pertaining to	RESTORERS DO	
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DOWN	29 Super	29 SPECTORIAL	
1 Sendy's calls	30 Some breads	SOON ENEMY	
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3 Computer	33 Intruding term		
instruction	33 Theater section		
4 Oraton	abbr		
5 Like time	44 Head of France		
6 Time	44 Limb boxes at		54 Con
7 horses	times		55 Flow
8 Churl	39 Long after +		56 Con
9 Deserve robe	40 Magician's word		57 Con
10 Momet, Ict	42 Distress call		58 Slag
11 Short	43 Ft Worth school		61 Mann
12 System	leers		62 201
13 See — (agony)			

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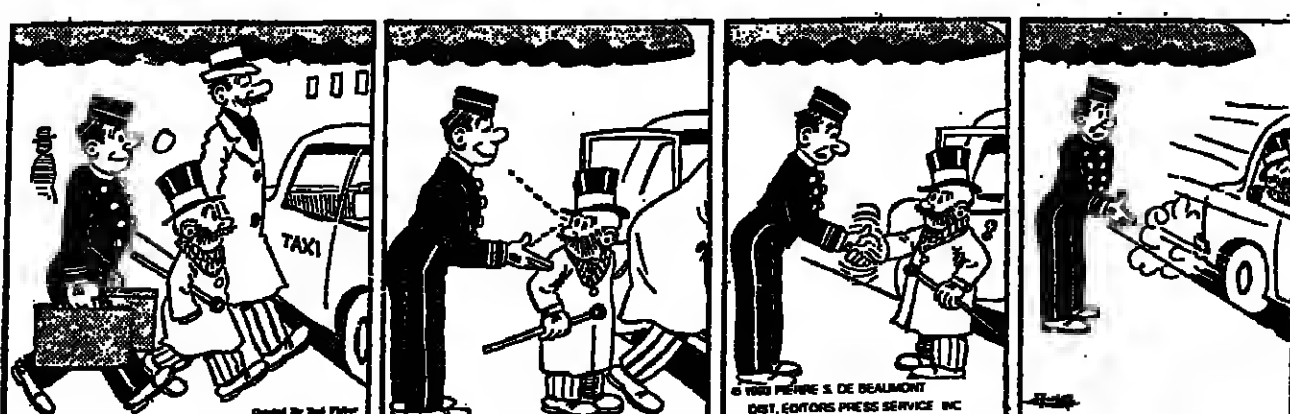
## Peanuts



# Andy Capp



## Mutt'n'Jeff





AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

AMMAN STOCK EXCHANGE

AMMAN BOND MARKET

AMMAN FOREIGN EXCHANGE

AMMAN GOLD MARKET

AMMAN SILVER MARKET

AMMAN DIAMOND MARKET

AMMAN JEWELLERY MARKET

AMMAN WATCH MARKET

AMMAN CLOTHING MARKET

AMMAN SHOES MARKET

AMMAN BAGS MARKET

AMMAN ACCESSORIES MARKET

AMMAN TOYS MARKET

AMMAN BOOKS MARKET

AMMAN MUSIC MARKET

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AMMAN COLLECTIBLES MARKET

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AMMAN MEAT MARKET

AMMAN VEGETABLES MARKET

AMMAN FRUITS MARKET

AMMAN BEVERAGES MARKET

AMMAN TOBACCO MARKET

AMMAN ALCOHOL MARKET

AMMAN MEDICINE MARKET

AMMAN COSMETICS MARKET

AMMAN PERFUMS MARKET

AMMAN HAIR CARE MARKET

AMMAN SKIN CARE MARKET

AMMAN NAIL CARE MARKET

AMMAN EYE CARE MARKET

AMMAN DENTAL MARKET

AMMAN OPTICAL MARKET

AMMAN AUDIO MARKET

AMMAN VIDEO MARKET

AMMAN ELECTRONICS MARKET

AMMAN TELECOM MARKET

AMMAN TRANSPORT MARKET

AMMAN TRAVEL MARKET

AMMAN TOURS MARKET

AMMAN HOTELS MARKET

AMMAN RESTAURANTS MARKET

AMMAN CAFE MARKET

AMMAN BAR MARKET

AMMAN NIGHT CLUB MARKET

AMMAN DISCO MARKET

AMMAN KARAOKE MARKET

AMMAN GAMING MARKET

AMMAN LOTTERY MARKET

AMMAN CASINO MARKET

AMMAN RACING MARKET

AMMAN SPORTS MARKET

AMMAN FITNESS MARKET

AMMAN YOGA MARKET

AMMAN PILATES MARKET

AMMAN MEDITATION MARKET

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AMMAN IRRIGATION MARKET

AMMAN FARMING MARKET

AMMAN FISHERY MARKET

AMMAN HUNTING MARKET

## Australia budget to continue providing stimulus to economy

SYDNEY (R) — Australian Treasurer John Dawkins said Sunday his annual budget to be handed down this week would provide some stimulus to the economy while waiting for recovery in Japan and Europe.

"We see the Australian economy picking up slowly, doing rather better than most of the industrialised world," Mr. Dawkins said in a television interview.

"What we see for this budget is to continue to provide some stimulus to the domestic economy while we wait ... for Europe and Japan to pick up their pace," he said.

The budget announcement Tuesday, covering the year to June 1994, will be the first for Prime Minister Paul Keating's government.

Mr. Dawkins declined to comment on the forecasts underlying the budget but said they would not be excessive.

Newspaper articles last week, citing official documents, said the government had framed its budget on the assumption of 2.5 per cent "year average" growth in gross domestic product.

This would be unchanged from the average rate in 1992/93.

"I think it will be around about half a per cent of gross domestic product being the stimulus in this year's budget and I think that's appropriate for the circumstances," Mr. Dawkins said.

Mr. Dawkins said the labour government's election spending promises, which included income tax cuts, would be delivered at no additional cost to the budget over the next four years.

"That's a very important thing," he said. "It means that to the extent that taxes will go up they won't be going up to pay for our election spending promises."

Mr. Dawkins said the government obviously had to cut back in some areas to accommodate promises made during the campaign.

Media reports said the budget would detail spending cuts of three billion Australian dollars (\$2 billion) introduced over three years and affecting spending on health, welfare, defence, employment programmes, education, housing and social services.

The income tax cuts were due to come into force in two stages, the first from July 1, 1994, and the second in 1996.

However, Mr. Keating said last month the first stage would be brought forward in full, possibly in Jan. 1, while the second would be postponed indefinitely.

Mr. Dawkins said the government had no plans for a broad-based tax on services.

"However, in relation to hotel accommodation, restaurant meals and so on, we are taking the opportunity to crack down on some of the executive perks in relation to travel and other things," he said.

## Government lets Cubans hold foreign currency

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Cubans could own and use foreign currencies legally — even open bank accounts with them — for the first time in decades as officials Saturday enacted reforms to help save the dollar-starved economy.

The new law was published in the only newspaper still publishing on Saturdays — the Communist Party daily Granma — and was reported by the government's Prensa Latina news agency, monitored here.

The measure is one of several that President Fidel Castro outlined last month as part of efforts to rescue the Cuban economy by luring dollars from investors and Cuban exiles.

Cubans contacted by telephone said longer-than-normal lines had formed in front of foreign-currency stores, whose goods are more varied and of higher quality than the stores where Cuban pesos are used.

The shops were previously limited mostly to foreigners, although Cubans often managed to use them by recruiting a tourist or businessman to buy goods for them.

A 50 per cent increase in prices at the shops imposed suddenly last week may have helped head off a frenzied rush to the stores.

Granma also published a central bank statement saying that it would allow Cubans to open bank accounts in foreign currency. It said they would be able to use foreign currency at some of the special shops set up for the purpose.

"It specified ... that the only requirement to open (foreign currency) accounts is personal identification," Prensa Latina reported.

A large minority of Cubans have some foreign currency sent from relatives abroad, garnered from tourist tips or earned in black market transactions. President Castro said last month that officials hope the new measures will encourage Cuban exiles abroad to ship more currency to Cuba.

## Iraq slams Saudi Arabia over oil policy

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq accused Saudi Arabia Sunday of breaking OPEC quotas and flooding the oil markets.

The attack in the ruling Baath Party newspaper Thawra was the latest in a series which have also targeted Kuwait.

"It is widely known that the oil policy pursued by Al Saud (the Saudi ruling family) focuses on flooding the world markets with extra oil ... for the service of the United States of America and especially the Zionist entity (Israel)," it said.

U.N. sanctions imposed on Iraq following the 1990-91 Gulf crisis ban Iraqi exports including oil.

Baghdad is stalling on a U.N. offer to sell oil worth \$1.6 billion to pay for badly needed humanitarian supplies and financial obligations under terms of the Gulf war ceasefire.

"The regime of Al Saud and likewise that of Al Sabah imposed a production policy in which they exceed the production ceilings set by OPEC," Thawra said.

Iraq has so far shown no intention of resuming talks with the United Nations on restarting partial exports. It wants the embargo fully lifted.

Under the main Gulf war ceasefire resolution a U.N. special commission must certify it has scrapped Iraq's big weapons before sanctions can be lifted.

With its coffers empty, Iraq is determined to seize back its pre-Gulf war OPEC quota of 5.1 million barrels per day once the embargo on its oil is removed.

## Financial Markets

### Foreign Exchange Market Summary (Aug. 9 - Aug. 13, 1993)

AMMAN — Trading activity was dominated by technical considerations throughout last week. The dollar was generally higher against European currencies, especially sterling. The yen, on the other hand, was a major performer, as it hit new record levels against both the dollar and the mark. The U.S. unit, thus ended the week 0.89 per cent higher against the mark, 2.54 per cent higher against sterling and 2.48 per cent lower against the yen.

On Monday, short-covering caused the dollar to rebound to 1.7013 marks during trading hours. But bearishness about U.S. economy, which had spread following the approval of Mr. Bill Clinton's deficit reduction package, coupled with comments by a Bundesbank official caused the dollar to retreat. The Bundesbank official was quoted as saying that expectations for further German interest rate cuts might be disappointed. The U.S. unit thus closed in New York at 1.6980 marks.

The dollar moved higher against European currencies Tuesday, especially against sterling, but it remained unchanged against the yen. Traders attributed much of sterling's slide to technical factors, along with repatriation of European funds that sought sterling as a safe-haven currency during the recent turmoil in the ERM. Sterling thus ended at \$1.4670.

The dollar moved sharply lower against the yen Wednesday, despite intervention from Bank of Japan, on reports that Japan's huge trade surplus had expanded further. As a result, the dollar moved to a new post World War II low, closing at 103.65 yen. Japan's trade surplus grew to \$11.82 billion in July, higher than expectations, and above the \$9.23 billion surplus recorded in July 1992. Its trade surplus with the U.S. grew to \$4.88 billion from \$3.81 billion for the same period. The dollar, however, moved higher against the mark, as falling European bond yields caused investors to increase their investment demand for dollar dominated assets. The dollar thus ended at 1.7327 marks, its highest for the week.

The yen continued to appreciate against the dollar and the mark for the remainder of the week, despite continued intervention from Bank of Japan, moving to new post World War II highs against both currencies. In the meantime, disappointing economic indicators and increased speculation that the Bank of England would ease soon caused sterling to move lower against both the dollar and the mark.

Traders attributed much of the yen's rise against the dollar to continued selling of dollars against yen in the forward market, by a great number of Japanese holders of bonds dominated in the U.S. currency, for hedging purposes.

On the other hand, another batch of U.S. economic reports, released Friday, failed to affect the dollar, as it showed mixed results. Consumer prices were reported to have increased by a tiny 0.1 per cent against expectations of 0.2 per cent while preliminary Michigan Consumer Confidence Index numbers retreated to 75.4 per cent in August, from 77 per cent in July. The dollar thus ended at 1.7123 marks, 101.90 yen, and at \$1.4595 to the pound. The mark, on the other hand, ended at \$9.51 yen, its lowest for the week.

### New York Closing Rates for Major Currencies Against the U.S. Dollar

Currency	6/8 1993 Close	13/8 1993 Close	Percent Change
Sterling Pound	1.4975	1.4595	-2.54%
Deutsche Mark	1.6970	1.7123	+0.89%
Swiss Franc	1.5020	1.5045	+0.17%
French Franc	5.9258	5.9538	+0.47%
Japanese Yen	104.45	101.90	-2.48%

### Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.9450	0.9470
Sterling Pound	0.6125	0.6150
Deutsche Mark	0.4054	0.4074
Swiss Franc	0.3556	0.3561
French Franc	0.1745	0.1751
Japanese Yen	0.00815	0.00847
Dutch Guilder	0.5600	0.5615
Swedish Krona	0.0549	0.0555
Italian Lira	0.0426	0.0430
Belgian Franc	0.01549	0.01598

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## Indian premier warns Pakistan to stop meddling in Kashmir

NEW DELHI, India (Agencies)

Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao Sunday vowed India would not loosen its hold on the disputed region of Kashmir, despite what he said was Pakistan's increasing aid to Muslim separatists there.

"Let Pakistan do anything. Kashmir is a part of India. Nothing can take it away from us," Mr. Rao said in a speech to the nation on the 46th anniversary of its independence.

In a departure from the past, when Indian prime ministers in public speeches used to accuse Pakistan only indirectly, Mr. Rao openly criticised Islamabad for fuelling the three-year-old insurgency in Jammu-Kashmir state.

In Kashmir Valley, the centre of the insurgency, rebels called for a boycott of Independence Day celebrations like they have done during the past several years.

While government-sponsored functions were being held Sunday under heavy guard in Srinagar, Jammu-Kashmir's winter capital, militants attacked a paramilitary patrol party near the airport, killing one policeman and injuring eight others.

In the plains of Jammu, to the south of Kashmir, suspected Muslim rebels exploded two bombs in Jammu City, the state's

winter capital, but there were no injuries, police spokesman D.K. Tikoo said.

On Saturday, rebels had hijacked a bus at gunpoint, separated the Hindus among the passengers and killed 15 of them in Kishtwar town of Jammu region.

About a dozen armed militias are fighting for the independence of Jammu-Kashmir, India's only Muslim-majority state. Some groups want the state to join Islamic Pakistan.

Islamabad denies India's accusations that it is training and arming Kashmiri rebels in Pakistani territory and sending them back to Kashmir across the mountainous border to fight Indian security forces.

More than 7,500 people have been killed in Kashmir since the insurgency flared up in the winter of 1989.

Mr. Rao said he hoped that new elections in Pakistan, scheduled later this year, would bring to power a leadership that will solve the Kashmir dispute without bloodshed.

"We can become friends and our friendship can be an example to the world. ... But I want to warn Pakistan that (aiding in violence) is not going to help anyone, least of all them," Mr. Rao said in his 70-minute speech.

Kashmir, made up of a wide

valley and lush mountains, was a princely state that was split between India and Pakistan when the two countries were born in the partition of British colonial India in August 1947. But Pakistan also claims the Indian-controlled Kashmir.

India celebrates its independence on Aug. 15 while Pakistan does so a day earlier. The two nations fought short wars in 1948 and 1965 over the territory, home to 6 million people, 65 per cent of which are Muslims.

Mr. Rao sounded the battlecry against Hindu fundamentalists Sunday, calling for a united fight to save India's secular values.

Mr. Rao said India's secular credentials and its tradition of religious tolerance had been blotted and its unity endangered by the Dec. 6 destruction of the Babri Mosque in Ayodhya by Hindu zealots.

"It shamed us in the eyes of the world," the Indian premier said in his address to the nation from the ramparts of the historic Red Fort after inspecting a guard of honour and unfurling the Indian tricolour.

"We looked like destroyers to the world," he said.

"We have to fight fundamentalism, every child has to fight it. If it is not fought, it will ruin the country, break it up. No political party has a right to di-

vide the nation along religious lines to grab votes."

"Secularism has been our life-breath, without it we will die. I urge the hundreds of millions of Indians to unite to save it," Mr. Rao added, pledging his commitment to legislation separating politics and religion.

Hundreds of police and paramilitary troops clamped a security cordon in and around the Moghul-built Red Fort as Mr. Rao started the day by paying homage to a memorial to Mahatma Gandhi, who led the fight for freedom from British rule.

The fort was scanned by bomb disposal squads and sniffer dogs and visitors were frisked.

In Mr. Rao's third Independence Day address to the nation, he again promised to rebuild the Ayodhya Mosque and protect minority interests.

The speech appeared directed also at his critic, including dissidents within the Congress (I) Party, who have accused Mr. Rao of being indecisive and lacking the will or the dynamism for a head-on fight with the BJP.

The prime minister, who came to power in June 1991, said divisive issues such as religion endangered economic progress and side-tracked attention from reforms aimed at transforming India's hidebound economy.

## Hosokawa breaks precedent at memorial for war dead

TOKYO (AP) — New Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa,

who already had labelled Japan the aggressor in World War II, broke another precedent Sunday by offering condolences to other nations' war victims on the 48th anniversary of Japan's surrender.

Mr. Hosokawa's statement and lower house speaker Takako Doi's blunt admission that Japan caused "horrible sacrifices" for Asians contrasted with the vague language of previous leaders in a nation that has struggled to come to terms with its war responsibility.

"I would like to take this opportunity to express my humble condolences to victims of the

war and their families in the neighbouring countries of Asia and around the world," Mr. Hosokawa said at an official ceremony marking Japan's surrender to allied forces on Aug. 15, 1945.

Among the 7,200 people attending were Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko, Emperor Akihito bowed deeply before a flower-adorned altar and led the participants in a minute of silence.

Mr. Hosokawa was sworn in last Monday as the leader of a coalition government that expelled the conservative Liberal Democrats from power for the first time in 35 years.

## Death tops 100 in collapsed Thai hotel

NAKHON RATCHASIMA, Thailand (R) — Thai doctors on Sunday began amputating the crushed legs of a trapped survivor of Friday's hotel disaster which killed more than 100 people and left more than 50 still missing.

Rescuers dug with their hands for seven hours to try to free the woman, hotel employee Maneewan Chittasakopon, but could not remove the beam pinning her in the ruins.

She was found Sunday morning as she called out "Sompot, Sompot," the name of her husband.

More than 100 people were confirmed killed in the collapse of the Royal Plaza Hotel, 250 kilometres northeast of Bangkok, and 83 bodies had been recovered by Sunday morning.

Later another female survivor was found and efforts to free her from the wreckage were also unsuccessful after several hours.

Rescue workers began using heavy equipment again to move debris, except where the two women were located, despite objections that they were putting lives at risk.

Education Ministry officials objected to the use of heavy machinery, saying that teachers who were attending a seminar when the hotel collapsed might still be alive.

Cranes and bulldozers had stood idle since Friday night because of fears that they could cause further cave-ins.

Workers who entered chambers beneath the rubble had seen dozens of bodies they were unable to take out, he said.

More than 270 people were injured in the collapse and 95 remained in hospital.

The bodies of 22 people were found in the coffee shop of the hotel late Saturday.

Three survivors were brought out of the caved-in restaurant early Sunday, two men and a female hotel receptionist.

A pregnant woman rescued Saturday morning gave birth to a baby boy by Caesarean section, the Sunday Post newspaper reported. Doctors said she may lose her left arm and leg, which were crushed by debris.

Officials said the 134-room hotel was originally a two-storey structure to which four storeys had been added. Another floor was under construction.

The dead included a British woman, Janet Mawdsley, and U.S. Air Force Sergeant Ramon Canda, who had been based at Anderson Air Force Base in Guam.

The owner of the hotel and two other members of the board of directors, including the general manager, and the civil engineer in charge of the construction of the seventh storey were arrested Sunday and charged with negligence, Deputy Interior Minister Channai Sakditheth said.

Prime Minister Chuan Leekpai toured the foul-smelling site and said he had ordered the provincial governor to conduct a full investigation.

"Our people so often break the rules. This is why so many problems occur," he said earlier.

The prime minister said he had heard a report that large amounts of water had been pumped into two new tanks on the roof because the city was experiencing periodic water shortages.

## Tajikistan, Afghanistan to curb border violations

MOSCOW (AFP) — Tajikistan and Afghanistan have pledged to work together on preventing border clashes between Muslim Tajik rebels based in northern Afghanistan and Russian Border Guard units.

ITAR-TASS said Sunday.

A joint communique issued by the Tajik and Afghan foreign ministers in Dushanbe stated that Tajikistan "will not permit armed actions from its territory against Afghanistan," the report said.

Tajikistan however reassured the right to self-defence in response to possible future attacks on Russian Border Guards and Tajik government troops launched from Afghan territory.

Afghanistan pledged to "exert efforts, as much as possible," to prevent Tajik rebels and Afghan Mujahideen from crossing the border north into Tajikistan and both sides agreed to form delegations to examine future border issues.

The agreements came after 25 members of a Russian Border Guard unit were killed last month in an attack launched from Afghan territory by Tajik rebel units, sparking threats of retaliation in Afghanistan from Russia.

Forces from a loose coalition of Islamic rebels and anti-Communist groups briefly toppled the pro-Communist regime in Dushanbe last autumn after six months of bitter civil war, but was subsequently ousted.

The Tajik government has said that more than 20,000 people were killed in the civil war and the government campaign to crush the rebellion, which led to tens of thousands of Tajik refugees crossing over into northern Afghanistan.



Indian Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao reviews an honour guard during a ceremony marking India's Independence Day (AFP photo)

## Lucky few leave Sarajevo

SARAJEVO (R) — A lucky few

escaped Sarajevo Sunday in the first major medical evacuation of its 16-month siege, but they left behind hundreds of other casualties and a bitter international row over who deserves to be rescued.

Sunday's controversial airlift began with the evacuation of 21 sick and wounded adults and children — eight of them on stretchers — by a British military transport plane for London and Stockholm via Ancona, on the east coast of Italy.

Dr. Patrick Peiloud scathingly dismissed the operation as a stunt parading children like "animals in a zoo." At least 400 similarly deserving cases remain in Sarajevo.

"It is a show," he told reporters. "And I don't like it."

As the Royal Air Force C-130 Hercules aircraft lumbered into the sky from U.N.-controlled Sarajevo Airport, fighting raged on unabated across central Bosnia, creating more victims in a war that has already cost or ruined many thousands of lives.

Despite the fighting and row over the evacuation, the Geneva peace talks, scheduled to resume Monday, received an apparent boost when Bosnian Serbs withdrew from mountains near Sarajevo and Muslim President Alija Izetbegovic said he favoured an ethnic partition of Bosnia to achieve peace.

Mr. Izetbegovic, who was speaking to a radio interview, has

hitherto favoured a multi-ethnic Bosnia for the country's Serbs, Croats and Muslims.

A U.N. military spokesman said following Saturday's negotiated withdrawal by Bosnian Serb forces from Mount Igman, only about 200 stragglers remained. They were coming out of the woods and waiting for transport.

But Serbs still hold the semi-circle of heights from which they have battered Sarajevo since the war began in April, 1992. They can resume shelling at any time if peace talks falter.

Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic declared Sunday that Sarajevo was "no longer under siege" and peace talks could resume in Geneva with realistic hope of a settlement.

"Serbs are not falling on Sarajevo and convoys with humanitarian aid are entering the city unhindered. With this practically all civilian questions linked with Sarajevo are resolved, which means that civilian Sarajevo is no longer under siege," he told the Bosnian Serb News Agency (SRNA).

Mr. Karadzic, speaking to SRNA from Geneva, said a withdrawal by the Serb army from Mount Igman and Bjelasica and deployment of U.N. troops between Serb and Muslim lines meant the peace talks could restart.

"We await the continuation of the talks with great optimism," he said, adding that the U.N.'s

mission henceforth would be to keep the two sides separate.

The fighting has caused thousands of civilian casualties. Yet only now are a few being airlifted for treatment abroad after Western governments responded to media accounts, initially about five-year-old Irma Hadzimuratovic, evacuated to London last week and still seriously ill to a hospital there.

The sniping about "Operation Irma" and the criteria for choosing those to be flown out did not die down Sunday.

Dr. Peiloud, head of the U.N. Medical Evacuation Committee, said the mission had been effectively hijacked by a British medical team as a public relations exercise, a sop to anguished Western public opinion.

"Children are not animals in a zoo," Dr. Peiloud said.

But Mukesh Kapila, a senior British health adviser, denied charges that cynical and popularity-seeking governments had sent doctors to Sarajevo with orders to rescue dying children whose anguish would pluck the heart strings.

"I don't think any of these injured people here are or have been treated as cattle," he said.

"Of course there is an ongoing need because we're in the middle of a war and there is going to be an ongoing problem."

He said Britain and other countries were considering further assistance.

## Pope is uncompromising on birth control, abortion and euthanasia

DENVER (AP) — Pope John Paul II issued an uncompromising declaration of church principles Saturday, summoning Catholics to shun artificial birth control, abortion and euthanasia and resist "widespread false morality."

The Roman Catholic Church leader also denounced the "evil" of sexual abuse by U.S. priests. He acknowledged victims' suffering while saying the primary response is prayer.

"America needs much prayer — lest it lose its soul," he said in an afternoon speech at McNichols sports arena during the third day of his four-day visit to the United States.

The Pope used some of the strongest rhetoric of his 15-year papacy on abortion and birth control.

On Saturday night, speaking to an estimated 250,000 people who

converged on a state park for a prayer vigil, the Pontiff lashed out at the "slaughter of innocent human beings," destruction of the environment, abuse of alcohol and drugs, pornography, sexual disorder and violence.

After the prayer vigil, the throng was spending the night at Cherry Creek State Park to wait for a mid-morning papal mass marking World Youth Day. Up to half a million people were expected.

But as a growing number of the pilgrims suffered health problems, overwhelming emergency crews, Arapahoe County Sheriff Pat Sullivan urged people to stay away unless they were fit to walk long distances in temperatures expected to climb into the 80s.

At least 20,000 people walked a 14-mile (22-kilometre) pilgrimage from downtown Denver to the park Saturday, and twice as many joined them along the way.

One of at least two people who suffered heart attacks died, and at least 5,500 people, most suffering from dehydration, sought medical help, authorities said.

About 150 people were taken to hospitals.

Earlier, at the sports arena, the Pope acknowledged that the U.S. church has been tainted by sex scandals and said he shared the concerns of U.S. bishops for the "pain and suffering" caused by some priests' sins.

His reference to victims drew loud applause from the crowd of 18,000 Denver Catholics and representatives of other churches.

The Pontiff stopped short of endorsing specific punishment for offenders, however. "While every human means for responding to this evil must be implemented, we cannot forget that the first and most important means is prayer: Ardent, humble, confident prayer," he said.

## Dog serves as 'best man' at master's wedding

RED DEER, Alberta (AP) —

Bandit the dog has always been Mike Knecht's best friend — now the furry mutt is also his best man. When Mr. Knecht, a Red Deer waiter, wed waitress Tracy Hill in this central Alberta city Saturday, his 10-year-old dog stood for him at the altar wearing a bid resembling a tuxedo. The threat of rain forced the ceremony indoors, but Bandit was on his best behaviour for the big day and the wedding went off without a hitch.

"It was a Las Vegas-style tux with a bow tie and ruffled shirt," said Mr. Knecht, adding the idea of a best dog raised a few eyebrows among his friends. But choosing a canine groomsman is perfectly legal, he said. And apparently the bride and United Church didn't mind — as long as a human signed the register as a witness in bandit's place. For Mr. Knecht, there was never any question about making the colliedoodle cross his man. "He's my best friend. We used to go fishing together and when I rode my motorcycle, he'd ride on the gas tank."

The 21-year-old admits he's missed Bandit ever since moving to Red Deer three years ago. He had to leave his dog with his mother in Calgary.

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## Man who killed and buried girlfriend free, digging graves

MONTPELIER, VT. (AP) —

Frank Malinosky dug a secret grave years ago in a remote area of Cabot and buried the body of his former girlfriend. As part of his sentence, he's being put to work as a gravedigger. Mr. Malinosky, 48, released from prison last week after serving slightly more than three years, will begin work this week at the Green Mountain Cemetery as part of the community service requirement of his 1990 manslaughter sentence.

Mr. Malinosky was arrested in 1990 in Los Angeles and charged with first-degree murder even though the body of the victim, Judith Leo-Coneys, had not been found. He agreed to show police where he buried her body 11 years earlier in exchange for a reduced charge of manslaughter, and pleaded no contest. He was sentenced to 10 to 15 years in prison with all but five years suspended.



## Navratilova downs Sabatini to reach Slims final

MANHATTAN BEACH, California (Agencies) — Martina Navratilova felt in total control Saturday when she beat Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina 6-1, 6-1 in 52 minutes in the semifinals of the \$375,000 Virginia Slims of Los Angeles.

Top-seeded Arantxa Sanchez Vicario of Spain needed a little more time but also took complete charge against 10th-seeded American Lori McNeil, winning 7-5, 6-2 in 91 minutes in the other semifinal in the 56-player, hard court tournament which serves as a warm-up to the U.S. open.

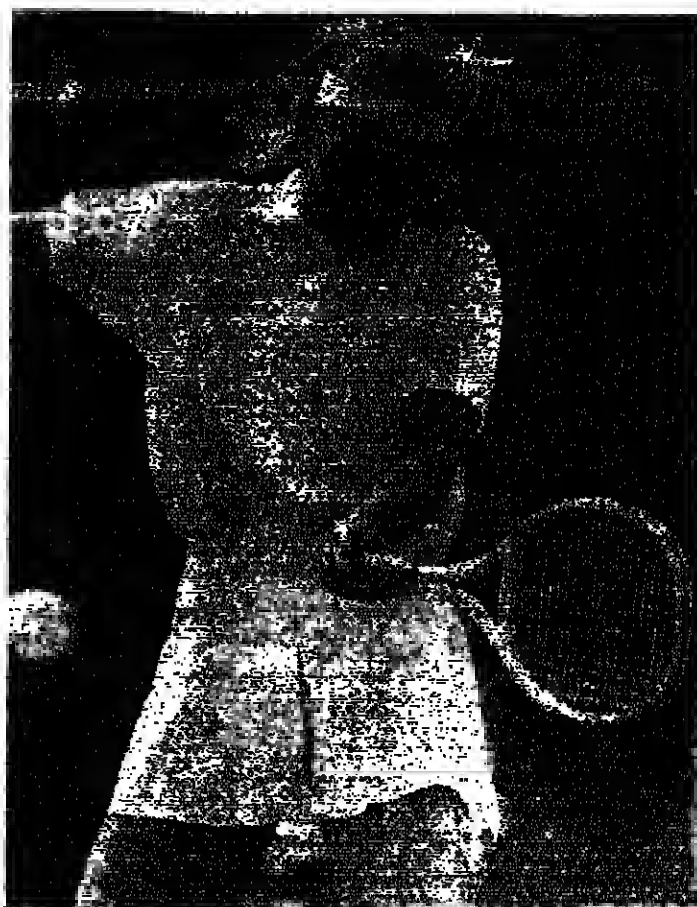
Navratilova, the second-seeded defending champion who has won the event a record seven times, played textbook serve-and-volley tennis and controlled Sabatini's service games by attacking the net on her second serve.

Navratilova, ranked fifth in the world, swept nine successive games from 1-1 in the first set until 4-0 in the second set as Sabatini tried in vain to find any sense of rhythm, unsuccessfully alternating net approaches with looping topspin shots.

Navratilova, who made an astounding 73 per cent of her first serves and won 78 per cent of those points, bluntly said that it felt good to play so well.

"It's so friggin' simply when you do it right and so bloody complicated when you do it wrong," Navratilova said.

"I felt I was at the height of my powers and it felt really good," said Sabatini. "I wasn't bad. She was too good, very good."



Martina Navratilova

### Ederg to face Chang in final

In Mason, Ohio, Stefan Edberg tamed Pete Sampras' blistering serve Saturday night, beating the No. 1-ranked player in the world in three sets to advance to the finals of the \$1.65 million Thriftway ATP Championship.

Edberg and Michael Chang play for the singles championship Sunday afternoon, and Edberg also will be playing in the doubles final.

Edberg played very well, and Pete played well, apart from a lot of double faults," Edberg said. "He was serving huge early but gave me more chances later in the match. I hung in there."

No. 3-seeded Edberg, who won the tournament in 1987 and 1990, won 6-7, (7-3), 7-5, 7-6 (7-5) in a match that took 2 hours, 43 minutes.

"I had the match in hand and just let it slip away," said Sampras, the defending ATP champion. "When you live by the serve, you die by the serve."

Sampras' serve was particularly effective in the first set, when he



Michael Chang

Sunday.

It will be the first ATP final for Chang, who fought off heat-induced nausea and outlasted Andre Agassi in three sets Saturday afternoon. The 7-5, 1-6, 7-5 win by Chang, the seventh-ranked player on the ATP tour, blunted Agassi's comeback bid.

"I was pretty determined to finish that match," said Chang, who left the court during one change of serve to remove the elastic shorts he wears under his tennis shorts for muscle support.

Chang said dehydration caught up with him in the second set, when it looked like Agassi was going to win in a rout.

"Andre wasn't being too kind to me, moving me from side to side," Chang said. "He knew I was hurting out there."

But Agassi could not maintain the flash despite breaking Chang's serve to go up 3-1 in the third set. In the end, it was Chang who wore down Agassi with his dogged returns from the baseline.

"I just kind of lost my rhythm," Sampras said. Edberg and Henrik Holm beat third-seeded Grant Connell and Patrick Galbraith, 6-4, 6-4 and will play the winner of the other doubles semifinal scheduled for

## World Cup qualifiers Australia defeats Canada in penalty shootout

SYDNEY, Australia (AP) — Third-choice goalkeeper Mark Schwarzer made two acrobatic penalty-shootout saves Sunday as Australia edged out Canada and advanced to the final round of qualifying for the World Cup soccer tournament.

Schwarzer's saves on shots by Alex Bunbury and Mike Sweeney lifted Australia to a 4-1 victory in the shootout.

Australia won the regulation match 2-1, leaving the teams tied at 3-3 in total goals. Canada won the first leg 2-1 in Edmonton July 31.

Frank Farina put Australia ahead 1-0 after 44 minutes of regulation time, but Lyndon Hooper equalized for Canada in the 55th minute.

Defender Mehmet Durakovic then put Australia 2-1 in front with a 77th-minute header, forcing the match into extra time and ultimately into the shootout, in which each team was allowed five shots on goal.

Paul Wade, Aurelio Vidmar, Alex Tobin and Farina scored penalties for Australia in the shootout. Dale Mitchell netted for Canada, but Schwarzer's two stops proved decisive.

Farina, who plays for French club Strasbourg, clinched the victory when he coolly planted Australia's fourth penalty high in the left hand corner of the net.

Schwarzer was surrounded by delighted teammates at the end of the game. First-choice goalkeeper Mark Bosnich announced his retirement from international football last month and second-choice Robert Zabica was suspended after being sent off in the first-leg match.

"It is a pretty emotional moment for us," said Australian captain Graham Arnold. "We did well."

Australia will now play the second-place team in South American Group B for a place in the 1994 finals in the United States. That group comprises Argentina, Peru, Colombia and Paraguay.

Canada, which finished second in the CONCACAF Group, was eliminated by Sunday's result.

Australia dominated the match for long periods, but was repeatedly thwarted by Canadian goalkeeper Craig Forrest and rugged central defender Randy Samuel.

MOGYOROD, Hungary (AP) — Briton Damon Hill overcame a two-race jinx Sunday to win the Hungarian Grand Prix, his first ever Formula 1 event.

The 30-year-old Hill, scion of two-time world champion Graham Hill, capitalised on bad luck by teammate Alain Prost, who had pole position, only to apparently stall his Williams-Renault at the starting flag. After a restart, Prost, the points leader at 77 quickly moved up last place to fifth by the 18th lap, only to be delayed by a more than five-minute pit stop. He never came back, ending in 12th place.

Hill moved into the lead after the second restart and never let go, covering the 305.336-kilometre (189.851 miles) of the 77-lap Hungarian Circuit in 1 hour 47:39.098 minutes.

Second was Riccardo Patrese of Italy in Benetton Ford, 1:11.915

## Damon Hill wins Hungarian Grand Prix

minutes behind. Third was Gerhard Berger of Austria, whose Ferrari was clocked at 1:18.02 minutes behind the winner.

### RESULTS

1. Damon Hill (Britain) Williams
2. Riccardo Patrese (Italy) Benetton
3. Gerhard Berger (Austria) Ferrari
4. Derek Warwick (Britain) Footwork
5. Martin Brundle (Britain) Ligier
6. Karl Wendlinger (Austria) Sauber
7. Mark Blundell (Britain) Ligier
8. Philippe Alliot (France) Larrousse
9. Thierry Boutsen (Belgium) Jordan
10. Ukyo Katayama (Japan) Tyrrell

## World Athletics Championships Devers feet do talking

STUTTGART (Agencies) — Olympic sprint champion Gail Devers let her feet do the talking in the women's 100m heats Sunday, as she laid the rest of the field to waste.

The American put a full seven tenths of a second between herself and the second fastest on the day, Nigeria's Mary Onyal, who clocked a creditable 11.23sec.

But Devers refused to talk about her performance afterwards, despite the margin over the likes of compatriot Gwen Torrence, Jamaica's Merlene Ottey and Russia's Irina Privalova.

Devers never looked under pressure as she strode home with ease and is the bookmakers favourite to add the world title to her Olympic crown.

The pressure is beginning to build on Ottey, probably the best qualified runner-up in women's sprinting.

"Gail Devers is the favourite — but the 100m is wide open" she said. "There are four of us who can run under 11sec. And this is the best shape I've been in for three years."

But the Jamaican, a double bronze medalist in Tokyo two years ago, played down the prospect of defeat to Devers.

"I'm not going to hang myself or throw myself off the roof if I don't get it," she quipped.

Ottey was beaten into second place in the heat by Australian Melinda Gainsford, who was under no illusions about her victory.

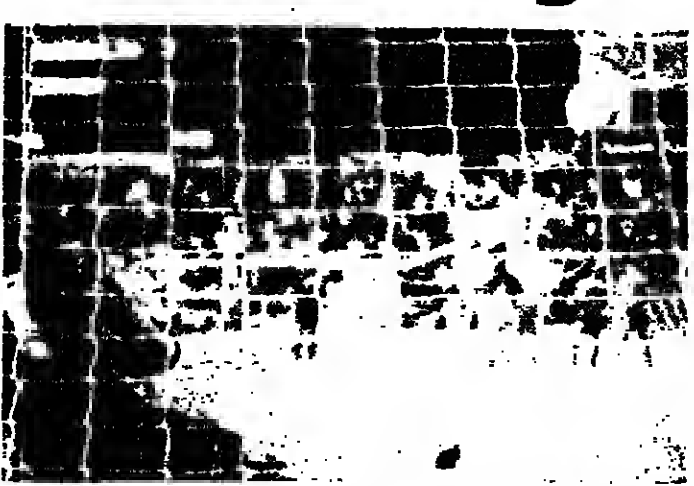
"It was just perfect today, the conditions were good and I felt good. I'm sure the other girls are looking it right now, but I needed that confidence."

Slowest on the day was Wenona Steven, a tubby-legged 14-year-old from the tiny Pacific island of Nauru. Her cousin Fredrick Canon had run barefoot against Carl Lewis in the men's 100m heats here Friday.

Wenona, who clocked 14.70, said: "I've only run the 100m five times before and I'm just very excited to be here."

Russia's Tatyana Alekseyeva was the only woman to dip under 51sec in the first round of the 400m, an event thrown wide open by France's Marie-Jose Perce, the reigning world and Olympic champion having moved down to 200m.

Torrence and Privalova, the fastest women this year over the distance have also given the event a miss in Stuttgart.



(Right to left) Sanni Herneslehti of Finland, Gwen Torrence of the U.S., Melanie Paschke of Germany, and Miriam Ferrer of Cuba leave the starting blocks during the women's 100 metres qualifying heats at the World Athletics Championships (AFP photo)

Alekseyeva will need to watch out though for Jamaican Sandie Richards, whose 51.01 left the third fastest, Jearl Miles of the United States, far behind in 51.24.

Richards, along with Ottey, has ambitions of pulling off a remarkable sprint double for Jamaica here.

Marathon runner back from sporting wilderness Mark Plaatjes, for years isolated by the sporting boycott of South Africa, won the World Championship Marathon on his international debut Saturday.

Plaatjes, granted United States citizenship only nine months ago, grimly hung on as Luckett Swartbooi appeared to be running away with the race in debilitating heat and humidity.

The matchstick-thin runner from Namibia weakened in the last few kilometres and Plaatjes came storming back for an emotional win.

"I wondered if I would ever get the chance to run in a World Championships," said the 31-year-old moved to Los Angeles in 1988.

The 27-year-old Swartbooi came to prominence by finishing third in the Boston marathon in April when Plaatjes was sixth.

Andre Cason, meanwhile, threw down the gauntlet to Linford Christie and Carl Lewis when he ran the fastest 100m this year.

Cason, thrashed by Christie, the Olympic champion, and Lewis, triple world champion, at

Zurich two weeks ago, sped home in 9.96sec.

He had sworn to avenge American sprinting pride after Christie's win in the Barcelona Olympic final which he had to watch on television with his leg in plaster.

He described the dash as "relaxed."

"I was just executive the moves I was taught — I was going through the motions," he said. As for the final, the Texan cannonball was not making any predictions.

"I'm just going out there as running my race. Tomorrow's another day."

Lewis was delighted with his 10.11 sec — sixth fastest of the qualifiers for Sunday's semifinals.

"I feel great — I'm ready to run my best tomorrow," Christie refused to discuss his 10.00, a Personal best this year. "I am saving it all for tomorrow."

Frankie Fredericks of Namibia, silver medalist in Barcelona, was third fastest in 10.06. Bruny Surin of Canada, was fourth in 10.07 and American Dennis Mitchell fifth in 10.08.

Morocco's Olympic 10,000m champion Khalid Skah, chasing a long-distance double, slipped through the first round of the 5,000m in fourth place in a heat won by Britain's Rob Denmark in 13 min 41.55 sec.

Denmark, the only non-African in the first 12 qualifiers, seemed to have blown his chances with 300m to go but he forced his way through on the finishing straight.

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\*AKQ10953 :E6 Vold \*9852  
Partner opens the bidding with one heart. What do you respond?  
A.—Your king in partner's suit is the equivalent of an ace, and your spade suit is surely self-sufficient. A jump to two spades now will take all the pressure off for subsequent rounds of the auction.
- Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
\*AQ106 :J643 K5 \*K97  
Partner opens the bidding with one diamond. What do you respond?  
A.—With 13 high-card points and a balanced hand, there's a temptation to jump to two no trump. However, that can't be right when you hold two four-card major suits. The correct response is one heart. If partner doesn't raise or bid one spade, you can jump to three no trump at your next turn.
- Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
\*S4 :AKQ102 :AKQ \*1093  
The bidding has proceeded:  
South West North East  
1 NT Pass 1 NT Pass  
What do you bid now?  
A.—This is one of the rare cases where we would recommend a jump rebid on a five-card major suit with a balanced hand. That glaring spade weakness opposite a partner who should not have more than three cards in the suit could prove fatal to a no-trump contract. Three hearts is our choice, but two no trump and three no trump are close behind, in that order.
- Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
\*A88 :K74 T3 \*KQJ94  
The bidding has proceeded:  
South West North East  
1 + Pass 2 : Pass  
What do you bid now?  
A.—The popular choice will surely be two no trump to show a balanced minimum with stoppers in the unbid suits. However, in these days of nebulous club opening bids, we think it vital to confirm a good suit in case partner's jump shift is based on a club fit. Our vote goes to three clubs.
- Q.5—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:  
\*K943 :6 :K9842 \*KQ6  
Partner opens the bidding with two clubs, and the next hand passes. What action do you take?  
A.—If you agree that a preempt should not be made with two aces, you know that there is no game for your side. However, to make it more difficult for the opponents to get together in hearts, we would raise the preempt to four clubs, even though there's no guarantee that you can make 10 tricks — and probably want!
- Q.6—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:  
\*QJ8 :A10 :AK943 \*Q52  
The bidding has proceeded:  
South West North East  
1 NT Pass 2 NT Pass  
What action do you take?  
A.—Partner's raise is invitational, asking you to bid game with a maximum. Even if your range is 18-19, your fifth diamond and good intermediate increase the value of your hand. If you did not carry on to three no trump, may we recommend a good primer on evaluation?

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## Palestinian expellees accept Israeli offer of partial return

MARJ AL ZOHOUR (Agencies) — The 396 Palestinian expellees stranded in southeast Lebanon for nearly eight months announced Sunday their acceptance of Israel's latest offer to let about half of them return next month.

The return of the exiles to the occupied territories would remove what became a major stumbling block in peace talks between the Arabs and Israel, although the expulsions failed to actually derail the peace process.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's government offered Thursday to allow the return of 192 exiles to the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip at an unspecified date in September. The rest will be taken back in December.

"We have decided to accept the new offer and wish to stress our firm belief in the right of all of us to go back home," said the exiles' spokesman, Abdul Aziz Rantisi.

It was the first time the exiles have accepted the principle of a piecemeal return. All earlier Israeli offers blessed by the United States were turned down.

Israeli defence ministry spokesman Oded Ben Ami said: "We are working on the procedure right now and they will be brought back sometime in mid-September."

Under a deal brokered by the United States, 121 of the exiles could have come back by May, another group in another nine months and the remainder in December. They refused, insisting that all the Palestinians exiled last Dec. 17 must return en masse, in accordance with U.N. Resolution 799.

The International Committee of the Red Cross said 66 exiles will have served their time next month and it is trying to organise with the Israeli authorities the repatriation of the 121 and the 66.

ICRC deputy head of delegation Claude Bruderlein added: "There are 25 cases of sickness and we are working to have them brought back." But he did not know how many were among the 187.

Dr. Rantisi listed several reasons for the exiles' change of mind:

- The resumption of the peace

talks despite the expulsion;

- The rise of the sickness rate to more than 100 among the exiles;
- The "news blackout" clamped by the United States to obscure our cause;
- Failure of the U.N. Security Council to implement its Resolution 799, which called Dec. 18 for the immediate and unconditional repatriation of all the exiles;
- Pleas the exiles received from their families to accept the offer.

Dr. Rantisi said the decision was taken after extensive consultations with all the exiles. Most of the men appeared happy as Dr. Rantisi made the announcement. But some were worried about the return journey.

"I'm uncertain about the welcome we will get," said Anwar Mahmoud, 30, a municipality worker in occupied Jerusalem. "Is it prison for us or home?"

Families of some of the exiles rejoiced. Dr. Rantisi's brother, Mohammad, said: "We bless this step, we bless their agreement. We hope all would return. The happiness is in the heart."



TEARFUL FAREWELL: Two children and their mother cry as they say good-bye to remaining family members before their transport Sunday to Sarajevo's Kosovo Hospital to be evacuated to England for needed medical treatment. Some 40 people including 11 children were evacuated from the besieged Bosnian capital to Britain and Sweden for medical treatment (see page 8)

## 'U.S. spies misread Iraqi bomb plans'

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. intelligence missed most of Iraq's nuclear bomb-building efforts before the Gulf war because its heaviest efforts were directed towards Vietnam-era missing in action (MIA) cases, a congressional report says.

The report, issued Sunday by the House of Representatives Armed Services Committee, found 20 times more Defence Intelligence Agency (DIA) personnel assigned to MIA cases than intelligence on Iraq.

The United States, the report said, had been "totally unaware of more than 50 per cent" of what has since been identified as suspected nuclear weapons-related sites in Iraq.

A Pentagon spokesman, Navy Commander Keith Arterburn, had no comment on the report.

The report said that in July 1990, a month before Iraq invaded Kuwait, DIA, the Pentagon's intelligence arm, had 42 people in its Washington headquarters assigned exclusively to the politically sensitive MIA and prisoner of war (POW) issue.

By contrast, only two were assigned to Iraq, despite a high priority, even then, on monitoring the spread of nuclear, chemical and biological capabilities worldwide.

"What is clear is that inadequate resources were applied to gathering data on the Iraqi nuclear effort," said the oversight and investigations subcommittee report, a supplement to a survey issued in April 1992 on lessons of the Gulf war.

Another reason the spy apparatus missed so much of the Iraqi nuclear programme was the lack of input from potential Iraqi turncoats, the report said.

The committee found U.S. forces greatly overstated — something more than doubling —

the number of Iraqi tanks, armoured personnel carriers and artillery pieces destroyed during the air phase of the Gulf war.

The exaggerated count was given to army General Norman Schwarzkopf, the U.S. commander in the Region, as he assessed the damage to the Iraqi military before deciding when to launch the allied ground offensive.

"This was the greatest challenge and the greatest failure of the intelligence community in Operation Desert Storm," the U.S.-led multinational effort that drove Iraq from Kuwait in February 1991, the report said.

Committee Chairman Norman Sisisky, a Democratic congressman from Virginia, said U.S. intelligence agencies repeatedly altered their methodology during the six-week air war to improve their readouts of enemy equipment damage.

"There's no book on how to handle battlefield damage assessments. We need to write one now," he said in a statement.

Despite finding fault with the count, the report said, the ground attack cut through the Iraqi army effortlessly. It added that the U.S. Central Command's threshold of destruction for launching the ground attack was "probably higher than needed."

Other findings:

- The armed services were so pressed for communications lines to Saudi Arabia that serious consideration was given to leasing Soviet satellite lines.
- Turn-of-the-century archaeologists' texts helped avoid soft sand that could have slowed Gen. Schwarzkopf's "left hook" flanking manoeuvre in the Iraqi desert.
- U.S. forces collected good tactical intelligence but often failed to deliver it to the fighting units that needed it.

## Prosecutors push to appeal acquittal in Mahjoub trial

CAIRO (AFP) — Egyptian prosecutors Sunday moved forward with plans to call for a retrial of 27 Islamic militants acquitted of the 1990 assassination of Parliamentary Speaker Rifaat Al Mahjoub.

They announced their plans to appeal Saturday's verdict by the high state security court, which acquitted all of the defendants of the Oct. 12, 1990 assassination after throwing out evidence obtained through torture.

But the civilian court sentenced 10 of the defendants to jail terms ranging from three years to 15 years for carrying weapons and forged papers.

The prosecutor's office will call for the verdict to be annulled and for the defendants to be sent before another body if it is found that the decision contained legal errors," the official told the Middle East News Agency (MENA).

Prosecutors will issue their appeal to the military governor, a title held by President Hosni Mubarak, who last year ordered trials of Islamic militants moved to military courts.

Military courts move more quickly and issues harsher sentences than civilian tribunals.

While Mr. Mubarak's spokesman could not be reached for comment, lawyers said here Sunday that they expected the president to call for a retrial.

"President Mubarak will refuse, under the authority given to him by emergency laws, to ratify the verdict and accept (an expected appeal) from the prosecutors," according to a lawyer who requested anonymity.

Lawyers noted that Mr. Mubarak this year ordered the

reopening of the trial of Sheikh Omar Abdul Rahman, the exiled spiritual leader of many Islamic militants here, and 47 of his followers who were acquitted in 1990.

They were accused of participating in a violent protest in the oasis city of Fayoum, 100 kilometres south of Cairo.

The lawyer defending the 27 militants, Nabil Al Hilali, said after Saturday's verdict that justice had been done but said he feared "the president of the republic will never ratify these sentences. They are too lenient."

The court on Saturday sentenced Mohammad Al Naggar to 15 years in prison on the lesser charges after it threw out his confession to the assassination of Mr. Mahjoub, saying it was extracted under torture.

The presiding judge, Wahid Mahmud, said that "Naggar was kept alive only to serve the needs of the police."

He also said "not one detainee had escaped torture."

He added that Egyptian justice could not accept confessions based on torture, which he said "was proof of the failure and impotence of the police to discover the truth."

The court also said the main witnesses had not recognised any of the defendants.

Meanwhile, 53 Islamic militants accused of trying to overthrow Mr. Mubarak's secular government were to go on trial in a military court here later Sunday. It had originally been scheduled to begin last Monday.

Seven of the 53 are at large and are to be tried in absentia.

## Iraq frees stranded vessels

DUBAI (R) — Iraq is releasing merchant ships stranded for more than a decade in the Iraqi port of Basra by two regional wars, shipping sources in the Gulf said on Saturday.

They said the ships, some of which had been in Basra since before the outbreak of the 1980-1988 Iran-Iraq war, were towed into the Gulf through Shatt Al Arab, the waterway jointly controlled between Baghdad and Tehran.

"The Iraqis told the owners a few months ago they could collect the vessels from Basra," one shipping source said.

Iraq, currently negotiating with the U.N. for a limited resumption of oil exports, used to ship oil from terminals in Basra.

But an oil industry source said he thought the clearing of Basra port was not related to oil sales.

"They have the capacity to export 500,000 barrels per day from Mina Al Bakr terminal on the Gulf," he said, adding the capacity could be tripled if necessary by the end of the year.

Iraqi officials said in March they had started a three-year programme to dredge Shatt Al Arab, the only access for ships to Basra port.

The shipping sources said that on July 16, shipping firms in the Gulf received a memo from the U.S. naval forces Central Command advising them to coordinate with the maritime liaison office to ensure the cleared vessels were not violating a U.N. trade embargo on Iraq.

"Coalition naval forces operating in the Northern Arabian Gulf on behalf of the United Nations are required to ensure that vessels arriving and departing Iraqi waters are not violating United Nations resolutions," the memo, obtained by Reuters, said.

"To expedite this process, companies intending to transit to or from Iraqi waters are requested to notify the U.S. Naval Forces Central Command as soon as possible," it added.

U.S. Navy spokesman Bruce Cole said the USS Rigate Gallery checked the Greek-flagged merchant vessel Loyalty on Saturday as it was being towed from Basra to the United Arab Emirates.

He said it was the fifth vessel from Basra inspected in three weeks by the U.S. naval forces monitoring the U.N. embargo, imposed on Iraq at the end of the Gulf crisis over Iraq's invasion of Kuwait in 1990.

The first vessel, horizon, whose flag is unknown, was inspected on July 24, spokesman Cole said.

Since then U.S. naval forces have checked the Silver Crane and Evia whose flags are unknown and the Thalassini Mana flying a Panamanian flag.

"They all have a significant amount of corrosion. They have not had any maintenance.... but there was no indication that they had been hit, or war-damaged," he told Reuters.

None of them was carrying cargo from Iraq, he said.

He said a few ships left Basra earlier this year, but that it seemed the rate was increasing.

"We're expecting to see more of them," he said.

The desire for undisputed control of the Shatt Al Arab, jointly controlled with Iran under a 1975 agreement, was a main reason for the war between Iraq and Iran.

A decade later, after Baghdad's invasion of Kuwait, Iraq said it was prepared to accept joint sovereignty.

The shipping sources said they thought there could be up to one hundred ships still stranded in Shatt Al-Arah, mostly in very poor condition.

## Jordanian, Japanese officials discuss peace process

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Talal Al Hassan Sunday received director of the First Middle East Division at the Japanese Foreign Ministry Akio Tanaka, who arrived in Amman Saturday on a three-day visit to Jordan.

Mr. Hassan and Mr. Tanaka discussed Jordan's stand on the Middle East peace process and the Arab-Israeli multilateral talks.

Mr. Hassan stressed Jordan's commitment to the peace process on the basis of U.N. Security Council resolutions 242 and 338, the principle of exchanging land for peace and ensuring the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people on their national soil.

The multilateral talks, Mr. Hassan said, are complementary to the efforts exerted to achieve peace in the region.

He also commended Japan's support for Jordan in various fields of development and lauded Japan's support for the peace process.

Mr. Tanaka expressed his government's appreciation for the effective and positive role Jordan is playing in the peace process and voiced admiration of His Majesty King Hussein's role and endeavours to achieve a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East.

Mr. Hassan and the Japanese official discussed Jordanian-Japanese relations and means of enhancing them in various fields of cooperation.

The meeting was attended by Japanese Ambassador to Jordan Yuji Ikeda and several officials.

Mr. Tanaka was also received by Ministry of Tourism Secretary-General Nasri Atallah.

Mr. Atallah and Mr. Tanaka discussed bilateral relations in touristic fields.

## Little reaction from rights activists to 4 executions in Jordan

By Sa'eda Kilani  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The hanging this week of four Jordanians convicted of spying, murder and rape charges has drawn little reaction from human rights activists in the country.

According to reports published in the local press Sunday, two of the convicted were found guilty of spying. The other two, both Zarka residents, had a history of family disputes prior to the murders they were accused of.

The non-governmental Arab Organisation for Human Rights-Jordan Branch (AOHR) declined comment on the executions. AOHR secretary Hani Dahleh said the organisation "does not interfere in Jordanian court verdicts concerning death penalties."

A member of Amnesty International (AI) in Jordan, Nidal Mansour, said that in all cases regarding human rights violations and death penalties, the London-based international watchdog sends appeals to the concerned governments to halt death penalties on the basis that "executions are inhuman and might include innocent people." But, according to Mr. Mansour, no such statement was issued until now concerning the latest executions in Jordan.

The AI reaction to the hangings "will surely appear in a statement in a few days or in the organisation's annual report," he said.

According to international law, death penalty is not banned but confined to "very serious crimes." Human rights activist Walid Sa'di pointed out that although the international code of human rights does not ban executions, it encourages governments not to resort to death penalty as a general policy. However, "all attempts exerted at the Vienna conference (held last June) to make countries sign a statement in which they commit themselves to abolish death penalty failed," Dr. Sa'di said.

Protesting against what he termed as a violation of one of the basic rights of human beings — the right to live — human rights activist Suleiman Sweiss said that convicted could be rehabilitated.

"How come we stand against suicide and do nothing about murders, though both mean putting an end to human life by a human being?" Dr. Sweiss asked.

At least three other people have been hanged this year in the Kingdom.

In general, death by hanging is used primarily against those convicted of crimes such as rape and murder.

Under the Constitution, His Majesty King Hussein has to ratify death sentences before they can be carried out.

The latest hangings took place Saturday before dawn at Swaqa prison, 100 kilometres south of Amman.

The names of the four were not available. The newspapers provided only first names.

The reports said a man, identified as Ahmad, 28, was hanged after he was found guilty of raping his 80-year-old mother, killing her and stealing her money.

A man identified as Khaloud, 22, was hanged for knifing his father, step-mother and half-brother to death.

All the crimes took place in Zarka, the reports said, without giving details of the courts that tried the cases or saying when the sentences were handed down.

The papers said Fathi, 48, and Mohammad, 50, were hanged because "they were spying for the enemy and divulged secrets and information to it."

Reports said a fifth man, identified as Mohammad, also convicted of the same charges, had been sentenced to death in absentia.

Israel Sunday denied any knowledge of the two men executed by Jordan on charges of spying.

An Israeli spokeswoman told Reuters: "We just don't know anything about it."

## U.N. envoy says aid will stabilise S. Lebanon

MSEILEH, Lebanon (Agencies) — International aid for civilians hit by Israel's assault on southern Lebanon will help bring stability to the region, a U.N. envoy said Sunday.

Jan Eliasson, U.N. emergency relief coordinator, said he saw no possibility the international community would ignore a U.N. appeal for aid for the south to be made at the end of the week.

"I am hopeful they realise giving this assistance is not only a question of compassion for human beings struck by disaster but it is also a contribution to stability in Lebanon and stability in this region," Mr. Eliasson said.

He was speaking after talks with Parliament Speaker Nabih Berri, who heads the moderate and secular Amal movement. Amal and the pro-Iranian Hizbollah (Party of God) are the two main organisations in Lebanon's Shiite Muslim community.

Mr. Eliasson, who arrived in Beirut Saturday, left Mr. Berri's home in Mseileh village for a tour of areas further south battered by Israel's seven-day air and ground bombardment last month.

About 150 people were killed, more than 600 wounded and about 500,000 were driven from their homes in the blitz which was halted on July 31 by a U.S.-brokered ceasefire.

The Lebanese government says about 10,000 houses were destroyed and 20,000 were badly damaged.

Speaking on Saturday after talks with President Elias Hrawi, Mr. Eliasson said the U.N. had reported more than 1,000 houses were destroyed, 1,500 were partially destroyed and 15,000 were badly damaged.

Arab League Secretary-General Esmat Abdul Meguid visited Beirut on Saturday to discuss some \$500 million in aid for the south pledged by Arab states during the Israeli offensive.

Calling the situation in the region very "tragic," Mr. Eliasson said after a meeting with Prime Minister Rafik Hariri that he hoped to collect \$15 million "in the very near future."

Mr. Eliasson said he was confident that member states and U.N. special organisations would contribute to the fund "because the return of the inhabitants of South Lebanon is necessary for stability in the region."

"We agreed with the Lebanese prime minister that a housing assistance programme was necessary to counter the tragedy and that a large part of it had to be carried out before the onset of winter," he said.

He also said that the recent deployment of the Lebanese army around Hizbollah strongholds in the south previously patrolled only by the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) contributed "an element of stability."

Mandela plants a tree for peace

ALEXANDRIA, South Africa (AFP) — Black leader Nelson Mandela chose a bleak, rubbish-strewn, dusty and colourless street in this black ghetto to make his contribution to national Arbor Day. Watched by several hundred residents, three peace monitors and a lone cow, Mr. Mandela heaped a spadeful of sods onto a "grewia occidentalis"; a leafy tree that he said he hoped would combat pollution, halt soil erosion and bring touches of beauty into the township. Another 1,000 trees, donated by environmental groups for Africa, are also to be planted in Alexandria — regarded by some as South Africa's most poverty-ridden and crime-filled black township. Speaking at a gathering before the ceremony, Mr. Mandela accused the white minority National Party (NP) government of having "devastated" South Africa's environment. "Apartheid has polluted the air and water, pillaged the bedrock and torn the earth away like flesh. In much of the country, the soil cannot keep the people any more," Mr. Mandela said, quoting from a Worldwatch Institute report. He said the principle of sustainable development — meeting today's needs without preventing the next generation from meeting their needs tomorrow — had never featured in the NP's environmental policy.

Father arrested after son, 3, gets tipsy

WEST CHESTER, Pennsylvania (AFP) — A three-year-old child got drunk during a visit with his father here, police said. The tipsy toddler said "cheers daddy" and seemed to make a toast when questioned by police, after being returned to his mother in a beligerent state, unable to stand. The father has been arrested and charged with reckless endangerment of another person, corruption of a minor and providing liquor to minors. The boy had a 0.93 alcohol level, just below the 0.10 level at which adults are legally considered drunk in Pennsylvania, officials said.

World's biggest arts festival kicks off in Edinburgh

EDINBURGH (R) — Three weeks of non-stop entertainment featuring dancers, musicians, actors and film makers from all corners of the Earth kicked off Sunday when the curtain rose on the world's biggest arts festival. Forty-six years after the first festival of music and drama put the genteel Scottish capital firmly on the arts map, the Edinburgh International Festival and its associated fringe and film events are set for one of their biggest years to date. Ticket sales for the main festival have passed the £1 million (almost \$1.5 million) mark, up 15 per cent on the start of last year's event, while hotels and guest houses report the best trade since the slump of the 1990-91 Gulf crisis. Other festivals may boast more art, newer films or bigger stars, but none can rival the annual Edinburgh jamboree for sheer size and variety. Like Canes Film Festival, London's Covent Garden and the New York's Comedy store rolled into the Edinburgh's attractions this month.

## 2 teenagers held in James Jordan's murder

FAYETTEVILLE, North Carolina (Agencies) — Two teenagers have been arrested in the murder of basketball superstar Michael Jordan's father, state and federal authorities said Sunday.

The two young men, both 18 and both from North Carolina, were identified as Larry Demery of Rowland and Daniel Andre Green of Robson Country.

Both were charged with armed robbery, first degree murder and conspiracy to commit armed robbery.

"This is an act of random violence that all the public is afraid and concerned of," said Jim Coman of the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation into the July 23 murder of James Jordan.

Mr. Jordan, 57, was last seen on July 22 after attending a funeral of a former co-worker at General Electric, Willie Kemp, in Wilmington, North Carolina.

His body was found on Aug. 3 floating in a South Carolina

creek, with a gunshot wound to the chest.

Gary Odel Farrior, 16, of Fayetteville, was arrested on Saturday for an alleged role in stripping Mr. Jordan's \$46,000 Lexus. Police said Farrior was in possession of property from the car when arrested.

Mr. Jordan was shot to death when he apparently pulled off the road for a rest near Lumberton in southeastern North Carolina where the suspects were planning to rob someone, said Cumberland County Sheriff Art Binder.

The alleged killers knew their victim was Michael Jordan's father and took his body to South Carolina and dumped it in a river, then took the car back into North Carolina and abandoned it to cover their tracks, Captain Binder said.

Mr. Jordan's family had not notified police that he was missing because Mr. Jordan often travels on business and his family

did not become concerned until the car was found.

Authorities, who determined the unidentified corpse found in the creek died from a single gunshot wound to the chest, cremated the body after removing the jaw and fingers.

The discovery of Mr. Jordan's abandoned luxury car on Aug. 5 led police to suspect the cremated body was that of Mr. Jordan and he was identified with dental records.

Late Friday police arrested 20-year-old Gary Farrior on charges that he helped strip Mr. Jordan's \$46,000 Lexus.

Four people arrested earlier for vandalising the car were not connected with the murder, a police spokesman said Sunday.

On Saturday police arrested Terrell Marnicus Teasley, 22, Kenneth Connor and Jovan Jamahal Carter, 18, for vandalising the car. Farrior's younger brother, Gary Rodel Farrior, was

arrested on Friday.

Before Demery and Green were charged, police had been pursuing the theory that the killers had abandoned the car at the site of the murder and that it had then been stolen.

Federal authorities had refused to say if they were looking into any links between James Jordan's death and his son's widely publicised gambling.

Michael Jordan, who arrived at his parents' North Carolina home on Friday, issued a statement Saturday asking to be left alone.

"We will respect the request of law enforcement officials that we not comment regarding the circumstances surrounding his death while their investigations are continuing," said the statement issued by the Michael Jordan Foundation in Chicago.

"We ask that our friends respect our needs for privacy while we mourn the loss of the head of our family."

## COLUMN

### Diana wants speedy divorce, paper reports

LONDON (AP) — Princess Diana wants a divorce from Prince Charles "within months," not after the expected two years of formal separation, a Sunday newspaper reported. The Mail On Sunday, quoting unnamed "close friends" of the Princess of Wales, reported on its front page that Princess Diana hopes to secure a divorce through a clause in 1973 matrimonial law, which holds that couples have proper grounds for divorce if they have lived apart for at least five years. Buckingham Palace Princess Diana's formal separation from the heir to the throne last December after 11 years of marriage. At the time it was asserted that a full divorce wasn't on the cards until December 1994, if ever. Nigel Dempster, the Mail newspaper's royal reporter, wrote that an earlier divorce would be based on "Diana's claim that she and Charles have in effect not been man and wife" since February 1987. In that month, Mr. Dempster reported, the couple made an official four-day visit to Portugal but slept in separate bedrooms at the royal palace of Queluz outside Lisbon. A Buckingham Palace spokeswoman declined to comment on the report.

### Mandela plants a tree for peace

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